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Shamir, Peres at cross purposes

By MENACHEM SHALEV and WALTER RUBY
Jerusalem Post Reporters
Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres will each pass through Ben-Gurion airport today but their paths will not cross. Peres, carrying the message of an international conference as a gateway for peace talks, departs for a two-day visit to Egypt; several hours later Shamir will return from a nine-day visit to the U.S., where he repeatedly blasted both the idea of an international conference and its supporters.

Shamir and Peres yesterday continued to lash out at each other. Sources in both parties now believe that the differences between Labour and Likud, and the increasingly volatile relations between their leaders may set the stage for a showdown at next Sunday's cabinet meeting when both Peres and Shamir will report on their trips abroad.

Political observers said yesterday that the immediate fate of the coalition may now hinge on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and whether understandings will be achieved in his talks with Peres. A successful trip, from Peres's point of view, may well push the coalition over the edge, they said.

Shamir said in New York yesterday that "if Peres wishes to force an international conference on us, it may lead, to our sorrow and regret, to the dismantling of the government." He said that a conference is "bad and dangerous" for Israel and that "peace is not equal to capitulation and a conference means a capitulation."

Speaking to Israeli reporters in New York, Shamir remarked, "It is impossible to forbid the foreign minister to go any place, and to check possibilities. But the decision belongs to the government. If the government will be unable to decide, (Continued on Back Page)

U.S. waits for Hussein

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — Jordan's King Hussein has after all not ruled out a visit to Washington at the end of next month to discuss the possibility of convening an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict, U.S. officials and foreign diplomats here said yesterday.

Hussein, they said, would meet with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. He would also be expected to press Jordan's case in Congress for the sale of more U.S. weapons systems.

Reports from Amman had earlier said Hussein would spurn the invitation to go to Washington because of lack of confidence in the U.S. in the wake of the Iran arms sales affair.

U.S. officials had hoped that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak would follow Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to Washington this week. But Mubarak has tentatively turned down the Reagan administration's invitation. The Americans, while disappointed about Mubarak, are still anxious for Hussein to come to Washington. No firm dates have been set.

On Monday, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy said that the Reagan administration has "reservations" about the wisdom of convening an international peace conference but was still prepared to explore the option.



Syria in Beirut: A Syrian soldier (left) has his boots polished in the Lebanese capital's commercial Hamra street yesterday, while two of his comrades (right) paste up portraits of President Hafez Assad. (Reuters, AFP)

Israel keeps watch on Lebanon

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent
The government, in an effort to avoid war tensions with Syria, said yesterday it had no plans to intervene in Beirut following the deployment of thousands of Syrian troops in the Lebanese capital.

"Israel has no intention of intervening in Lebanon's internal affairs," the Ministerial Defence Committee said in a statement after a closed-door meeting. The committee added, however, that Israel rejected what it called Syria's intervention and deepened occupation of Lebanon.

"Israel will continue to follow closely every development on the ground and will see to ensuring its security needs on its northern border," the statement said.

The committee meeting was headed by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

In the Knesset plenum later, Defence Minister

Yitzhak Rabin said there had been no increase in the number of Syrian troops in Lebanon. Rabin was replying to seven motions for the agenda on Syria's intervention in Beirut.

Rabin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee yesterday that the Syrian army had not changed the deployment of its ground-to-air missiles in Lebanon following its latest move into West Beirut.

Israel has "reason to believe" that Syria has a good idea of how much leeway Israel would allow it in Lebanon, Rabin told the Knesset. He said he believed that Israel's deterrent power vis-à-vis Syria had increased recently.

Rabin told the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that no Syrian troops had gone further south than the Beirut suburb of Khaldé. They had deployed in parts of the capital held by the Sunni and Druse militias. But they had not entered the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps, or the Shi'ite

suburbs south of the city, where the Amal and Hizbullah militias were based.

The minister told the committee that Syria had moved into West Beirut because the Shi'ite Amal militia displayed weakness in recent weeks under pressure from the militias of the Druse, the Sunni Moslems, the Palestinians and the Lebanese Communists.

The Amal militia is Syria's principal ally in Lebanon, Rabin explained.

Israel would not call for the exit of all foreign forces from Lebanon, the minister said, since it was just as legitimate for Syria to keep troops in the Bekaa valley, to protect its national interests, as it was for Israel to keep troops in the security zone.

In West Beirut yesterday, Syrian troops swept through the deserted streets, systematically closing 50 militia offices and took over the pro-Iranian fundamentalist Hizbullah's Fathallah barracks.

Investors cash in on profits

Stock prices plunge

Post Economic Staff
Share prices in Tel Aviv were swept downward in a wave of sell orders yesterday, as the stock market registered its biggest one-day plunge of the year.

Market observers attributed the drop to investors' cashing in on their stocks after a month-and-a-half of steady price rises. All signs pointed to a further decline today, they said.

Observers said the sell-off was not connected with developments outside the market, such as the coalition crisis. They noted that share prices had performed extraordinarily well since the start of the year and that the strongest sectors had taken the biggest tumbles yesterday.

While the General Share Index had risen about 21 per cent since the start of the year until yesterday, the industrials sector had pushed ahead

close to 48 per cent and the Investment Companies Index has racked up a gain of nearly 69 per cent.

Industrial concerns led the drop, with the Industrials Index plunging 6.55 per cent to 139.29 and the Industrial Investments Index shedding 7.81 per cent to finish at 165.10. The General Share Index dropped just under 3 per cent to 117.73.

Only 35 issues posted advances in yesterday's trading, while 294 registered declines. By comparison, there were 136 advances and 150 declines on Monday. Of the 294 declines, 145 were in excess of 5 per cent of the previous day's price.

Turnover was high, but not especially so by recent standards, as NIS 31.6 million worth of shares changed hands. Non-bank shares comprised the bulk of the turnover at NIS 29.3m.

Shultz applauds 'glasnost'

WASHINGTON (AFP). — Secretary of State George Shultz said yesterday that certain aspects of the new, more open policy in the Soviet Union should be "applauded." He termed Soviet leader Michael Gorbachev an "extraordinarily able, intelligent and hard-driving man" who has taken "some major steps."

Speaking to a group of educators at the State Department Shultz said: "I suppose you can convince yourself that they are major steps by the fact that he has gotten a negative reaction from a lot of the so-called bureaucracy that will have to change. Nevertheless, it is clear that...there are important changes, and

it is a fascinating thing to watch, and something basically to be applauded."

However, he also commented that "we worry a lot about human rights, and I'd have to say it's a mixed picture. There has been a focus on certain very well-known cases and a lot of publicity given to them, but in the broad run of what is happening to the average humanity, it seems to us that if anything, the situation is more repressive."

He said that the U.S. was looking "for a change in emigration policies [and] in the attitude toward religion."

South Lebanon: Relief

vies with concern

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter
ROSH HANIKRA. — South Lebanon's villagers are guardedly relieved by the return of Syrian troops to Beirut, but they also feel trepidation over what the move may portend.

Looking north, they hope Syria's armed intervention will put an end to the internecine fighting and ensure safe passage to and from the battered and beleaguered Lebanese capital.

Most of the population of the South are Shi'ites, who also support any help that might extricate their co-religionists from the bloody mire of West Beirut. Shi'ite Amal militiamen have been fighting a losing battle in the western part of the capital against an unholy alliance of Druse, Palestinian and Communist forces.

The southern Shi'ites, according to sources in South Lebanon, have become increasingly concerned about Amal's involvement in the fighting. They say that what began as a war of containment to prevent the resurgence of Palestinian power has evolved into a battle for domination of Beirut.

Some of the southerners, the majority of whom are affiliated to Amal, have contended that their movement had neither the right nor the might to take on such a task. Instead, they felt Amal should concentrate its energies on safeguarding the regional interests, security and unity of the Shi'ite community in the absence of any form of central control, the sources said.

The fact that some Shi'ites have been fighting alongside villages arrayed against the Amal militiamen in Beirut has added to the concern of those southern residents.

Their fears of armed anarchy on the Beirut scale spreading south are not without justification. Increasing numbers of extremists have been joining the ranks of the fanatical Iranian-backed Hizbullah for ideological reasons. And mercenaries from poverty-stricken villages offering their services to whichever militia pays best are ten-a-penny.

So far the South has remained relatively aloof — in Lebanese terms — from the inter-tribal and inter-communal warfare. But the consequences of the battles have been felt all the same.

Lately there has been a spate of burials in the South as the bodies of relatives and friends killed in the Beirut bloodbath have been brought home.

It sometimes happens, said the (Continued on Back Page)

Moments of drama in court

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"No, no, no" Justice Dov Levin said heatedly yesterday, as Pinhas Epstein at the end of his testimony asked for permission to address the accused, John Demjanjuk, directly.

This was only one of several dramatic developments during the afternoon session of the sixth day of the Treblinka war crimes trial.

The morning had been taken up with defence counsel Mark O'Connor continuing his cross-examination of camp survivor Epstein, jumping from subject to subject without any pattern discernible to the lay observer. In this process O'Connor seemed to cover ground previously pursued.

Perhaps he was sparring, like a boxer looking for an opening in his opponent's defence. At one stage Presiding Justice Levin told him not to repeat the same question three or four times. To this O'Connor replied that he was laying the groundwork for further developments. "We know, but still — be brief," said Levin.

An emotional outburst by Epstein was triggered in the afternoon session by a seemingly innocuous question asked by Judge Dalia Dorner. So far she and the third member of the bench, Judge Zvi Tal, have intervened only infrequently in the proceedings, leaving most of the actual conduct of the trial to Levin.

Judge Dorner wanted to know how often Epstein saw Ivan the Terrible at the camp.

The answer was a flood of impassioned statements.

"I saw him all the time. We were in a small area; he operated [the gas devices] near me; he was always there. He looked with pleasure at mutilated corpses only metres away from me. I can't find words to find any comparison for him; he was not of this planet. Some murderers regret their deeds, but not he. The human mind can't conceive what went on at Treblinka. He was a monster out of this world."

Justice Levin then suggested that Epstein be given a few minutes to calm down before further cross-examination. But the next crisis was not slow in coming.

"The two defence lawyers, O'Connor and Yoram Sheftel, objected when prosecutor Shaked wanted to show the witness a photo for identification. Sheftel claimed the prosecution was 'leading' the witness. 'The identification of the photo would be invalid, just as the identification in open court at this stage of Demjanjuk as Ivan the Terrible is invalid.'"

Justice Levin ruled that by showing the photo to Epstein prosecutor Shaked would indeed be leading the witness. So, no photo.

After this exchange Judge Tal asked a question of Epstein. What was the name of a fellow Ukrainian who operated the gas chambers together with Ivan? Was it Nikolai or Mikolai?



A policewoman comforts an elderly woman at the Demjanjuk trial yesterday. (Rahamim Israeli)

Epstein answered that it was Mikolai. Most listeners had been sure that until then the name had been pronounced Nikolai.

The afternoon session ended at 5.30 instead of the usual 6.30, because Epstein's testimony and cross-examination had been completed

ring to the contents of your testimony," he added.

The afternoon session had started with O'Connor asking Epstein many detailed questions about the different dates and occasions on which he had testified about his camp experiences. In particular he asked him about the 1978 denaturalization trial of Treblinka guard Fedor Fedorenko, which took part in Ft. Lauderdale, in the U.S., and about a similar trial of John Demjanjuk in Cleveland in 1980.

O'Connor wanted to know the names of the other witnesses that travelled on the plane to the U.S. trial, the name of the accompanying police official, and whether the group members stayed at the same hotel at their destination. "We all stayed at the same Howard Johnson," replied Epstein. He also recounted that at the entrance to their Cleveland hotel a group of Ukrainian demonstrators chanted: "Here come the representatives of the KGB." (The Russian secret police).

"Am I a KGB man?" Epstein asked.

O'Connor's line of questioning seemed either designed to trip up the witness in a contradiction or to imply (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

Maccabi playing foul with Orthez

By DON GOULD and KENNETH KAPLAN
Post Sports Staff

French basketball champions Orthez, here since Sunday night to prepare for tomorrow's crucial European Cup clash with Israeli champions Maccabi Tel Aviv, have had all efforts to practise in a top

grade court thwarted by Maccabi. "Maccabi closed all the doors to us," a source close to the French club told The Jerusalem Post last night.

French coach George Fisher expressed his "surprise" at his team's inability to find a practice court and indicated it wasn't for want of looking. "The courts were busy everywhere," said Fisher with a wry smile.

Normally, visiting European teams travel to the host country only a day, or at most 48 hours, in advance of a game.

To prepare themselves fully for the all-important game, Orthez arrived early in Israel to enhance their team spirit with sight-seeing around the Holy Land and to become acquainted with Israeli conditions.

The French club from the tiny town at the foot of the Pyrenees are making their first attempt to win the most coveted trophy in European basketball and are the surprise leaders of the final pool. Both they and Maccabi are desperately keen to win tomorrow.

For Maccabi, in fact, defeat would spell the end of the road in this year's quest.

Orthez, who are based in Jerusalem, found that the capital's only two decent courts — the Goldberg Sports Centre and the Hebrew University court — were unavailable.

They then turned to Hapoel Holon with a request to use their stadium both on Monday night and last night. (Tonight, by accepted European Cup practice, they will be able to work out at Yad Eliyahu, scene of tomorrow night's game.)

Holon were receptive in principle, but assuming that Maccabi Tel Aviv should be consulted as Orthez's hosts, approached the Maccabi management.

To their surprise, the Maccabi answer was: "No — turn them down." Holon did so.

When approached last night to comment, Maccabi president Shimon Mizrahi responded, "Orthez never approached us for anything like that. We do not run things at Hapoel Holon."

THE JERUSALEM POST
Haifa Office
Please note that, effective Sunday, March 1, our office at 16 Rehov Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel (Tel. 04-645444) will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Friday till 1:00 p.m.)

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Regan under fire over Iran arms

White House chief of staff seen resigning this week

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan met with his White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, on Monday night amid increasing speculation that the senior administration aide will resign after the publication tomorrow of the Tower report on the Iran arms scandal.

No official comment has been made, but the *Los Angeles Times* said yesterday quoting administration sources, that the president had decided to get rid of Regan.

The *Times* of London said in a Washington dated report that Regan would resign on Friday and would be replaced by Drew Lewis, a former transport secretary.

A White House official, who requested anonymity, said the White House chief of staff had given "no indication of any intention to leave or stay" at the end of a meeting between the president and a dozen of his close aides.

The meeting was to discuss a re-

sponse to the report prepared by the Tower commission into the role of the National Security Council in the Iran arms sales and the diversion of funds to Nicaraguan Contra rebels.

According to the official, Regan said he had agreed with the president to discuss rumours of his departure "after the Tower report."

The *Washington Post* said yesterday quoting Republican Party sources that Regan had asked Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt to become the new White House chief of staff.

The *Los Angeles Times* said the new man could be Charles Price, the current U.S. ambassador in Britain. It added that the Tower commission had criticized Regan for not protecting the president after revelations on the arms sales were released.

According to some accounts, the Tower report will say the president gave conflicting statements about whether he authorized Israel's first

shipment of arms to Iran in 1985.

Reagan originally told the board he had approved the arms transfer. However, at a later meeting he said he had conferred with Regan on the matter and concluded he had not authorized the shipment, according to reports. The later version substantiates Reagan's sworn testimony on the matter.

Regan has been severely criticized for his role in the Iran arms affair, and sources close to the president's wife, Nancy Reagan, said his departure was imminent because she wanted a new chief of staff and had campaigned for Regan to leave.

Mrs. Reagan was upset with Regan when she learned he had persuaded the president to change his story, a source said. She was also dismayed that Regan had revealed to congressional investigators that the president kept handwritten notes that might offer some insight into the Iran affair, the source said.

'Arms link Abdallah to murders'

By MICHEL ZLOTOWSKI and agencies

PARIS — As Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, being tried here for complicity in the murders of an American and an Israeli diplomat, continued yesterday to boycott his trial, the court discussed weapons found in a Paris apartment rented by Abdallah and a woman companion.

Abdallah saw "no reason to appear," the court was told. On Monday, the day the trial started, the suspected leader of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions (Far) walked out of the courtroom after denouncing "American imperialism" in Lebanon.

Abdallah's lawyer, Jacques Verges, says his client intends to continue the boycott.

Abdallah has pleaded not guilty to charges of complicity in the 1982 assassinations in Paris of a U.S. military attaché, Lt.-Colonel Charles Ray, and Israeli diplomat Ya'acov Barsimantov, and in the

attempted murder of Robert Home, U.S. consul-general in Strasbourg.

Court President Maurice Colomb said the guns, explosives, documents and other evidence found, link Abdallah with the attacks on the American and Israeli diplomats.

Among the documents found in the car belonging to Abdallah and his woman companion, Jacqueline Esber, which was abandoned in a parking lot in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, police found a map of Geneva on which potential targets had been circled. One was the office of Nessim Gaon, Swiss Jewish financier.

Counsel for the civil plaintiffs (the U.S. and the slain U.S. diplomat's wife, Sharon Ray) repeatedly asked the police officers who took the stand why their investigation of the two murders contained so many loopholes.

He wanted to know why the French secret police (DST) who had received precise information from

the Israelis on the responsibility of Abdallah in Far's terrorist activities two days after Barsimantov's murder, had waited two and a half years before passing on this tip to the Criminal Brigade.

One of the officers told *The Jerusalem Post* there was no reason to criticize the DST whose "aim is not to arrest people but to gather information." Obviously they were on Abdallah's track and obviously they were not alone. If the Israelis wanted so much to have Barsimantov's murderer arrested, why didn't they pass on the information to the Criminal Brigade?

He added, "The U.S. secret service had some interest in leaving Abdallah and his group loose. But the situation changed when Abdallah, fearing he was being followed by Mossad agents, ran into a police station in Lyon in 1984 and asked for protection. The DST could no longer pretend it did not know the man."

Six war criminals 'alive and well' in Britain

By DAVID HOROVITZ and agencies

LONDON — The Home Office has confirmed that six alleged Nazi war criminals are alive and well in Britain. The six were named on a list of 17 names sent to Premier Thatcher by the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre in October.

Of the remaining 11, three are said to be dead, six have not yet been traced, and two are said to be probably living in Britain.

Representatives of the Wiesenthal Centre are to meet with Home Secretary Douglas Hurd on Monday to discuss further action.

In Canberra, Australian Attorney General Lionel Bowen told parliament yesterday that Australia is to create a special unit to investigate allegations against Australians suspected of being Nazi war criminals.

He said that the special unit would

report to him directly and that any prosecutions resulting from its investigations would be carried out inside Australia. The unit would begin by examining allegations against 70 people named in a confidential government report.

In Lyon, a French judge said yesterday that alleged Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie will go before a court on May 11 to face charges of crimes against humanity.

In Washington, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council is conducting a two-day conference to study and commemorate the non-Jewish victims of the Nazis such as Poles, Ukrainians, gypsies, homosexuals and Christian clergymen. It is an attempt to expand knowledge of those evil days and also to assuage feelings among non-Jewish survivors that the term "holocaust" includes others who suffered too.

Basra shelled, Iran advances

NICOSIA — Iran said its forces killed or wounded 900 Iraqis in fighting east of the port city of Basra yesterday while Iraq claimed that Iranian artillery shelled the city for the second day, killing and wounding civilians.

The Iranian news agency Iran monitored here also claimed that Iranian forces had broken through Iraqi fortified defence lines east of Basra and that its forces were "now advancing towards their predetermined goals."

Iraq did not comment on the latest Iranian claim, but charged that Iranian artillery had again shelled Basra, a city of one million people, in violation of a condition set by Baghdad for holding a two-week halt in air raids on Iranian cities.

Denying the bombardment, an Iranian military spokesman said the Iraqi charge was only made "in a bid to perpetrate additional crimes."

Study warns of nuclear dangers in M.E. and South Asia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel may have acquired nuclear weaponry "to level every urban centre in the Middle East" with a population of over 100,000, according to a study released yesterday.

The report also cautions that if rebel governments take power in either South Africa or Pakistan and gain control of existing nuclear technology, the result could be "one of the gravest dangers of the next decade."

The warnings are contained in the third annual report on global nuclear proliferation by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Written by a Carnegie associate, Leonard Spector, the

report also discloses that the Shah of Iran, shortly before his ouster in 1979, initiated work on a nuclear weapons research programme that presumably has been inherited by the government of Ayatollah Khomeini. But Iran is still far short of a nuclear weapons capability.

Declaring that several countries with nuclear potential are in the Middle East and South Asia, the report says the consequences of a nuclear conflict starting in either region are difficult to predict because both Moscow and Washington have major interests there. It says "extraordinary devastation" could result even if a nuclear war were confined to a particular region.

The great American Aids cover-up — even past death

By WILLIAM SCOBIE

LOS ANGELES — While no one can document the full scope of the problem, health experts agree that many thousands of Americans, mainly people in professions such as the law, the church, medicine, and business, are concealing they are dying from Aids from the outside world, even — with the connivance of their doctors — after death.

Tens of thousands more, fearing job-and-insurance loss and rejection by friends and families, are concealing the fact that they are among the estimated two million Americans who carry the Aids virus but as yet show no signs of it.

In both situations, health experts say, the cover-up is helping to spread the always-fatal disease that has already struck 30,000 Americans.

Liberace, like many victims with much to lose, kept up a front even after death. The flamboyant entertainer denied his homosexuality to the last and ordered his publicity agents to tell his Berituda-shorted fans (hundreds of them stood mased in a bizarre Palm Springs home) that he suffered merely from anemia brought on by a "watermelon diet" he had adopted last summer — "his last, worst joke," says a family friend.

The coroner was not convinced. Liberace's remains were virtually

snatched by California officials from the embalmers' hands and carried off for an autopsy. Hospital records showed he had tested positive in January for antibodies to the Aids virus; tissue analysis indicated he died from cytomegalovirus pneumonia, an "opportunistic infection" that is the most common cause of death in Aids patients.

Did the coroner act properly? Or were his doctors right in respecting Liberace's dying wishes? The ethical debate over the individual's right to privacy versus the public's right to know is growing louder and more bitter daily in the U.S.

California Congressman Henry Waxman, head of a House subcommittee on health, said last week that he considered the handling of the Liberace autopsy "repugnant," but — while the privacy of Aids sufferers should be respected while they live — after death, "public safety must come first."

To many medical authorities, this is too little, too late. "There's a great official reluctance to consider mandatory testing and partner-tracing programmes," says Dean Echenberg, a San Francisco health official who started such a programme last year.

Echenberg's scheme has been called "fascist" and "Orwellian" by gay rights activists in California, who argue that tests for Aids anti-bodies

are inaccurate almost 20 per cent of the time, while they are a violation of personal rights that will inevitably be used against carriers in the workplace.

The plight of U.S. clergy, especially Catholics sworn to celibacy, who have developed Aids is particularly painful. Although church spokesmen deny any "cover-up" and say that only a minute fraction of the 58,000 Catholic clergy are affected, at least a score of priests have died — in San Francisco, Boston, Chicago, New York and other cities.

Doctors and political figures are no less prone to the "cover-up syndrome." An unidentified doctor discovered to have Aids was removed from all clinical duties last week in Chicago. The head of the hospital said he voted for the suspension "if only to protect us from lawsuits."

The overall consensus is that some form of mandatory testing is inevitable. Insurance companies in several states are fighting for legislation that would require anyone seeking life or health insurance to submit to a test. "What choice have we," asks California lobbyist Lewis Keller, "when the experts compare this to the Black Death and say that by 1991 Aids medical bills will top \$14 billion annually?"

(London Observer Service)



Publisher Robert Maxwell holds the first edition of his newspaper, "The London Daily News," fresh off the presses, at a party to mark the paper's inauguration in London yesterday morning.

(Reuters telephoto)

Newspaper war in London

LONDON (Reuters) — A circulation war broke out on the streets of London yesterday between two rival press tycoons, with Londoners able to choose from three evening newspapers for the first time since 1960.

The sales battle, the first of its kind for 30 years, exploded on Sunday when the *Standard*, London's only evening paper for the past six years, suddenly announced it would revive the long-defunct *Evening News*, with which it merged in 1980. The surprise announcement came as Czechoslovak-born millionaire Robert Maxwell launched his *London Daily News*, Britain's first 24-hour newspaper.

The owner of the *Standard*, Lord Rothermere, said the *Evening News* would sell for 15 pence — the same price as when it closed in 1981 — and would appear five days a week with an expected daily circulation of 100,000.

Maxwell said he was aiming for a

circulation of 500,000 to 600,000 within a year — roughly the *Standard's* circulation.

"I am known to be quite steady of nerve and deep of pocket," Maxwell told reporters. "If necessary the *London Daily News* will sell at 10 pence a copy."

Asked on television yesterday if he would go as far as giving away the paper, now selling for 20 pence, Maxwell replied: "If necessary we will do just that."

The first edition of the *London Daily News*, heralded by fireworks over the River Thames, hit the streets at 6 a.m. yesterday. The lead story for the 64-page paper was about Aids.

Maxwell dismissed the *Evening News* as a joke but said he was worried that Londoners might get confused by the two titles. "Remember we are the *London Daily News* and they will presumably call themselves the *London Evening News*."

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Nato okays Reagan request to replace Gen. Rogers

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Nato agreed yesterday to a request by President Reagan to replace U.S. Army General Bernard Rogers as Supreme Allied Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, an alliance spokesman said.

Rogers, 65, who has held the post for seven years marked by his controversial comments, indicated last November that he was prepared to stay on if asked to do so.

China arrests two alleged Taiwan spies

PEKING (AFP) — The Chinese government said yesterday it had arrested two people on charges of spying for Taiwan and accused one of them of inciting student demonstrations in December.

The official New China news agency, citing the Ministry of State Security, said Liu Zhengguo and He Rongsheng were sent to the mainland in November "to carry out intelligence activities" for Taiwan's military information department.

India suspends mediation on Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Reuters) — India has suspended its mediation between the Sri Lankan government and Tamil leaders for a peaceful settlement of the island's ethnic crisis, an Indian official said yesterday.

The spokeswoman said mediation efforts had halted because there was no change in the Sri Lankan government's policy in seeking a solution to the conflict between the majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

Swiss seize 100 kilos of heroin in record bust

BELLINZONA (AP) — Swiss police seized 100 kilograms of heroin with a street value of up to 60 million francs (\$39m.) in an internationally coordinated raid.

The cargo, stashed in a truck en route from Turkey to Italy, was intercepted last weekend, police said. It was the biggest single heroin catch in Swiss history. Four Italian and Turkish nationals were arrested near Bellinzona in southern Switzerland.

Philippine rebels attack on anniversary eve

MANILA (AP) — Communist rebels launched attacks yesterday in four areas of metropolitan Cebu City, killing five people and wounding four others, the military reported.

The attacks in the country's third-largest metropolitan area occurred the day before nationwide celebrations marking the first anniversary of the overthrow of ex-president Ferdinand Marcos.

Meanwhile, in a taped message broadcast by the government's television station on the eve of the celebrations, President Reagan hailed the revolution as an "historic moment which freedom-loving people everywhere will long remember."

PLO National Council to meet in March

TUNIS (AP) — The Palestine National Council, the exile parliament of the PLO, is to meet in March in a new effort to reconcile rival Palestinian factions, the PLO news agency Wafa reported yesterday.

The report said Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid received a high-level PLO delegation in Algiers on Monday and gave his approval to host the proposed meeting.

Moscow youths demonstrate against teenage gangs

MOSCOW (Reuters) — About 500 youths demonstrated in central Moscow on Sunday to protest against the violence of teenage gangs from the suburbs who claim to be defending the Soviet way of life. Moscow radio said yesterday.

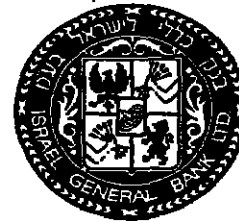
BANKING

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ISRAEL GENERAL BANK



Of The Baron Rothschild Group

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Suspicion based on past experience and a tempting optimism based on what might best be described as "the Gorbachev process" has induced equal measures of confusion, excitement, debate and hope in the Soviet Jewish communities both in Israel and the Soviet Union.

For every Kremlin move there are now at least two interpretations.

For some, *glasnost*, the "openness" policy now being linked to "democratization" in Gorbachev's speeches and actions, is but a sophisticated manipulation of the Western media's wishful thinking about Soviet liberalization.

For others, Gorbachev has undertaken an historic experiment which by comparison to Western liberal democracies may not seem much, but within the context of Russian and Soviet history, is revolutionary.

The militant Soviet Jewry Information Centre's spokesman Yuri Stern emphasizes "repatriation" as the solution to the dropout problem. But repatriation implies that every applicant for emigration in the Soviet Union is ready to undertake the kind of heroic struggle involved in declaring oneself an Israeli.

The government takes a half-step toward Stern, who belittles the government's declarations against the U.S. granting refugee status to Soviet Jews, but who knows, too, that any sign of coercing Soviet Jews to take up residence in Israel leads straight to a fight with either Washington officialdom or Jewish organizations in the U.S.

Yet the Israeli government's efforts must remain committed to aliyah as the focus of the emigration movement, while the emigrants themselves seem to have a consensus that freedom to leave the Soviet Union is the main struggle.

Even the Begun family's demonstrations

Gorbachev's 'glasnost' brings hope ...and confusion to Soviet Jews

for Begun's release became a matter for analysis and speculation. Goons, presumably from the KGB, harassed the demonstrators, said the pessimists. But the demonstrations were allowed to go on day after day, said the optimists, and the international publicity was a key factor in forcing Begun's release.

The confusion resulting from Kremlin aide Georgy Arbatov's announcement on American TV of Begun's release and the delay in the release were proof that the saboteurs were at work, say the pessimists and optimists alike.

Government sources deeply involved in the emigration campaign seem to have developed a cautious optimism.

They are optimistic because they see in what they call the "Gorbachev process" unprecedented developments in Soviet history. They are cautious because it is evident that while, so far, Gorbachev has the edge in the Soviet power struggle, his fight is not over and it's still not clear what he is fighting for. In the delays in Begun's release, they see an example of how middle-level management in the Soviet system can easily sabotage the policymakers' decisions.

They are optimistic enough to believe that in the coming weeks there will be test cases of the Soviet claims of new policies - mailings of Hebrew-Russian dictionaries, for example - which in the past never reached their destination.

Making the entire issue more complicated is that nobody - except perhaps Rudolf Kuznetsov, the head of Ovir, the Soviet's emigration department - can say exactly how

many Soviet Jews actually want to leave, let alone come to Israel.

There are disputes about the numbers of refusniks - people whose applications have been turned down. The numbers range from 11,000 to 17,000. In recent weeks the Soviets have complicated matters by releasing lists of people who will be allowed to leave and people who won't be allowed to leave. Each new publication of such lists creates more confusion.

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. - It is entirely possible that all Jews waiting to leave the Soviet Union will be allowed out, according to Israel's ambassador to the UN, Binyamin Netanyahu.

"The Soviet Jewry question has become a barometer of Soviet trustworthiness," he told a Joint Israel Appeal dinner here this week. Moscow knows, he added, that if it is going to stop "Star Wars" and reach arms control pacts, it will have to act responsibly towards Soviet Jewry.

The number 400,000, often cited by Soviet emigration activists and Israeli politicians, is the number of invitations sent between 1968 and 1985 and not turned into exit visas. In all, some 650,000 invitations were sent and by the end of 1985, roughly 265,000 Soviet Jews had obtained visas. Some 180,000 of them came to Israel.

But nobody knows how many of the 400,000 invitations that weren't turned into visas ever were turned into applications.

The Soviets, meanwhile, contradict themselves. They admit that emigration applications have gone up suddenly in the last two months since the new emigration regulations were instituted, but they have also long argued - as did the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman in an unprecedented interview with Israeli radio last week - that "the gates are open, and whoever wanted to leave has already done so."

Furthermore, despite reports of a sudden climb in the number of monthly exit visas - 500 in January, according to Soviet officials - the number of arrivals in Vienna is still short of such heights. That may be a result of the bureaucracy lagging behind the policymakers.

And yet another problem foreseen by both academic Sovietologists and government officials who have been involved in the emigration campaign since the '60s: the opening of the doors to increased emigration from the Soviet Union would indicate the existence of the kind of liberalization that might lessen the pressure for emigration. But at the same time, the doors opened by a combination of *glasnost*, demonstrations and international campaigns, diplomacy and geopolitical interests, might suddenly increase emigration by encouraging those who have not yet made applications.

And the other side of that coin: of the estimated 30-40,000 Soviet Jews who theoretically are eligible for emigration because

they have immediate family living outside the Soviet Union, some 70 per cent have those relatives in countries other than Israel.

Veteran Russian immigrants in Israel do not hide their longing for Russian culture. Some badly miss the landscape of their origins.

The satellites on the rooftops of dozens of Russian-speaking neighbourhoods from Ashdod to Haifa beam Soviet TV programmes into the homes of tens of thousands of Soviet Jews living here. The most popular page in the largest Russian-language weekly in Israel, *Krug*, is the Soviet TV schedule.

Finally, there is the bald truth that the vast majority of Soviet emigres, whether those already out or those who are yet to come, are not Beguns or Nudels, Shcharitskys or Mendeleichs ready for sacrifice both there and here, for the sake of living in the Jewish state. At least some of the dropout phenomenon can be attributed to the disappointment of not finding in Israel the fulfillment of the hopes people had when they left the Soviet Union, and their communicating that disappointment back to friends and relatives. "Those who want to leave: anti-Semitism come to Israel; those who want to leave: Sovietism go to America," is a common saying among Soviet Jews here.

And in Moscow, the joke goes that "being Jewish is not a religion, it's a form of transportation."

Meanwhile, the political leadership from both the Likud and Labour seems unclear on whether Soviet-Israeli relations should come before, during or after Moscow allows mass Soviet Jewish emigration: whether Soviet-Israeli relations are linked to the peace process; what it will mean, if and when the emigration doors open wide, that Soviet Jews choose America instead of Israel; and who will be responsible for absorption - and for mistakes.

(First in a series of three)

'Not enough being done to bring Ethiopians to Israel'

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Though Israel has no formal diplomatic ties with Ethiopia, it still has informal ties and if it wanted could arrange for the Jews remaining in Ethiopia to come to Israel, an Ethiopian-Israeli spokesman claimed yesterday.

Addiso Mesala, president of the Beta Yisrael organization of Ethiopian olim, told a press conference in Jerusalem that the country's 7,000 Ethiopian Jews would strike for one day on Sunday to protest against what the organization sees as the government's inaction concerning their families in Ethiopia.

Since Operation Moses ended prematurely in January 1985, after news of the rescue mission was leaked to the press, government efforts to bring the Jews remaining in Ethiopia to Israel have ceased, according to Mesala. Many of those who came here in Operation Moses still have family members - children, parents and even spouses - in Ethiopia, he said.

Under the Marxist regime, Ethiopian Jews are actually better off today than they were under Haile Selassie, he asserted. Jews are allowed to own land and are not subjected to official discrimination, although discrimination does exist, especially in remote areas.

But many of the country's Jews, he said, sold all they had for a nominal price in the expectation that they would soon be leaving for Israel.

Mesala said that both Shimon Peres, when he was prime minister, and more recently, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, assured them that help was on the way for their families in Ethiopia, but nothing has been done, he said.

Shamir had told them that it would be best to remain silent on the issue, he said. But Mesala insisted that "silence doesn't help." He added that "we might believe them if they told us what they were doing, but they don't tell us."

Mesala also said that there was still resentment over the demand of the chief rabbinate and the rabbinical courts that the Ethiopians undergo a symbolic conversion ceremony before marriage or divorce.

The religious authorities are inconsistent, he said. "On the one hand, they say we are not real Jews and on the other hand, they say we are religious and should go to religious schools."

He himself, he said, was very religious as a youngster, but had abandoned religious practice because of what he described as his "humiliation" at the hands of Israel's religious authorities.

Move to limit party donations

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

A cabinet minister and two MKs have launched campaigns to limit the contributions of individuals to political parties.

Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein, the Shinui party leader, is circulating a memorandum among his cabinet colleagues and senior members of the judiciary, in the wake of the former state comptroller's public complaint that some Knesset factions have been getting donations as high as \$500,000 from individuals.

Rubinstein repeated Yitzhak Tunik's assumption that the parties were circumventing the statutory ban on donations from business firms by receiving the money from private persons.

He recalled Tunik's statement that the party financing law had been intended to free the parties from dependence on contributors. But Tunik had said the same dependence could exist whether the party got money from a company or from a private person.

Rubinstein wrote in his memorandum that when a minister or an influential civil servant solicits and collects donations for parties, it is always suspected that the donor does not give voluntarily but because of the pressure which the functionary is exerting upon him.

Rubinstein would limit contributions by individuals to political parties to NIS 15,000 per annum, and would fix the fine for illegal donations as twice the amount of the donation.

Two Likud MKs, Michael Eytan and Dan Meridor, who got their faction's approval for a private member's bill to limit donations to parties by individuals, would fix the ceiling at NIS 20,000 for current financing during the term of each Knesset (normally four years).

Eytan and Meridor would fix the penalty at five times the amount of the illegal donation.

Acceptance of donations from firms in Israel and abroad would also be penalized by a fine five times the amount of the donation.

The bill also calls for a penalty of six months imprisonment for the donor. Party officials who refuse to open their books to the state comptroller would be liable to 12 months imprisonment.

Swiss believe in 'armed neutrality'

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. - "Israel and Switzerland are the only countries where more than 10 per cent of the population is incorporated in the army," Switzerland's Chief of the General Staff Lt.-Gen. Eugen Luthy said in an interview after a week-long visit here.

The Swiss, whose neutrality hasn't been seriously challenged in over 170 years, believe that they have kept out of wars because of their "armed neutrality," said Luthy.

They are known to have strong fortifications in all entrances to the Alps. They have prepared for the large-scale destruction of bridges and tunnels and have taken other measures in keeping with the adage: "If you want peace, prepare for war."

Luthy saw similarities between his country and Israel: both are small, have a similar military system and want strong armies.

He came here as guest of the IDF's chief of general staff, Rav Aluf Moshe Levy, believing, he said, that Israel's experiences could be helpful to Switzerland.

He appeared at the interview caked in dust, after having spent the day with the Ground Forces Command visiting armour and artillery schools and watching an exercise in the desert. He said he was impressed with the simulators and the computers used and also with the large area set aside for training. "We could rent a few square kilometres here," he said.

(As a matter of fact, Israel - including the West Bank and the Golan Heights - covers 28,000 square kilometres compared with Switzerland's 41,000.)

Luthy wanted to see Israel's latest technology. Switzerland has bought Israeli-made ammunition and was trying out drones. It was also looking at electronic warfare devices and optronics. It was interested as well, said Luthy, in artillery ammunition, command and control systems, night-vision devices and "maybe other things."

The Swiss general said he had found items of interest during his visit to Rafael and other arms industries but would check other sources before deciding on purchases.

Luthy said he wished to learn about Israel's military organization.

Switzerland has a system similar to Israel's reserves. The country does not have much of a standing army: a cadre of 4,000 to 5,000 career men and "a few dozen" women volunteers. All able-bodied men are called up at 20, assigned to front-line units and must train for three weeks a year. At 32, they are reassigned and must serve for two weeks every other year.

Thus, at any given moment there are 30,000-50,000 men on active service, whether in basic training, refresher courses or maneuvers, Luthy estimated.

Each soldier takes home his gun, ammunition, uniform, helmet, gas mask and filter. In an emergency, call-up orders are broadcast over TV

and radios. Switzerland can muster a force of 650,000 men in this way.

Heavy equipment from tanks to airplanes is sheltered in "very decentralized locations all over the land." Luthy declined to say how long it would take to mobilize the force. Other sources say it would take 48 hours.

Israel's battle experience was of limited relevance, he said. "The Israeli concept at the operational level is offensive, while Switzerland will never have any formation cross its borders," he stated.

Was there anything in the Swiss experience which could be of use to Israel? Luthy's aide, Major Laurent Francois Carrel, said he believed Swiss protection against chemical warfare was superior to Israel's.

The Swiss authorities do not plan to distribute gas masks to the civilian population, but Israel does. More than 4 million masks are stored away for possible use.

In Switzerland, however, all shelters are equipped with gas filters. Every new building is required by law to have such shelters which also have decontamination equipment.

There are underground shelters for 80-85 per cent of the population, Luthy said. The population without shelters is spread out in mountain villages. Communal shelters are being built for them, but they will be ready 10 years from now. However, the chances of a chemical bomb being dropped on isolated buildings in the countryside are slim, Luthy said.

'Lavi will cost \$1-1.4b. a year by 1990'

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. - By 1990, Israel will have to budget between \$1 billion and \$1.4b. a year to finance the production of the Lavi jet fighter, a U.S. congressional study has just concluded.

As reported briefly in Monday's *Jerusalem Post*, the U.S. government's General Accounting Office (GAO), said that Israeli officials assumed that increased levels of U.S. financial aid by 1990 would enable Israel to pursue the Lavi project.

Thus far, over 90 per cent of the Lavi's already-spent funds for research and development - some \$1.3b. - have come from the U.S., the GAO report said.

In recent years, Israel has received \$1.8b. in annual military grants. "Israeli officials expressed the hope that by the early 1990s U.S. budgetary constraints will have run their course and that additional funding will be available from the U.S. government to ensure successful completion of the Lavi programme," the report said.

Pentagon officials insisted that Israel was indulging in "wishful thinking." They denied that U.S. aid levels to Israel would increase significantly. Over the past year, they have strongly urged Israel to scrap the Lavi project and to purchase more U.S. planes instead.

Last week, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said that Israel would wind up saving a lot of money by simply purchasing more F-16s. "It's an airplane [the Lavi] that will not add militarily in any significant way to Israel's military strength," he said, adding that it was "too expensive" for Israel.

The long-awaited GAO report, commissioned by Democratic Representative Lee Hamilton of Indiana, estimated that the "flyaway" cost of each Lavi will be about \$17.8 million - assuming that Israel Aircraft Industries builds a total of 300 planes by the year 2003. IAI has said that it plans to build 24 planes a year, with the first Lavi to be delivered to

the Israeli Air Force in 1990.

The GAO's \$17.8 million figure compares to the \$14.5m. estimate made by IAI and the \$22.1m. estimate of the U.S. Defence Department. But despite the fact that the GAO figure was closer to the Israeli estimate, the lengthy study still suggested that the plane will consume a very high percentage of U.S. military aid to Israel and wind up draining other Israeli defence-related programmes.

In April 1985, the report said, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin set an annual spending limit of \$550m. on the entire Lavi programme. The report said that Israeli Defence Ministry officials noted that this \$550m. cap was to be "an average so that, in any particular year, the actual amount spent could be greater or less than \$550 million."

The GAO report said that its own cost estimate could wind up low if "significant slippages or other unforeseen problems" develop. It said that such problems are normal in any such sophisticated weapons project.

avenues may open that are not even perceivable now," he stressed. This was proven at Camp David, where not only Moshe Dayan, who had publicly "preferred Sharm el Sheikh to peace" but Menachem Begin himself had agreed to give up the whole of Sinai.

"The real problem in the peace process is not whether Israel should agree to an international conference but if it is ready to negotiate the future of the West Bank," he said.

Before coming here, Sterner visited six Arab countries. In Jordan, he sensed "ambivalence," and concluded that their insistence on an international conference was because their agreement with Arafat had come to nothing. "I see the crucial issue not as the modalities of negotiations but a Palestinian representation of some credibility," he said.

University rector and Mid-East specialist, Gabriel Ben-Dor predicted that the record of the experts' negotiations in the Mid-East had been "zero per cent," having failed to foresee everything from the Six-Day War and the peace with Egypt to the Iran-Iraq conflict. Sterner agreed on "the total fallibility of the experts."

Ben-Dor predicted there would be no new U.S. initiative before the 1988 presidential elections.

However, he proposed that rather than trying to be the world's policeman, at which the U.S. had failed in Vietnam, they might assume the role of an "insurance company" underwriting the risks the parties themselves take for peace, as the U.S. had done so successfully at Camp David.

Ben-Dor saw no obstacle in the U.S. lack of even-handedness, "because a biased intermediary is not necessarily a bad one," though to succeed he may need a partner, biased to the other extreme willing to share the conflict management. This may open the way to bring in the Soviet Union, Ben-Dor held.



A stone masonry cleaner, perched 52 metres over Trafalgar Square in London, prepares to give Lord Nelson's statue a face lift yesterday to remove nearly 20 years of accumulated grime. The statue and supporting column were erected from 1839 to 1843. (Reuters telephoto)

State religious schools losing pupils, NRP says

Children are leaving the state religious school network for secular schools, and for more intensive Torah programmes in the Noam system and ultra-Orthodox schools, representatives of the National Religious Party told a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday.

The speakers argued that one reason for the loss of pupils was that the Education Ministry was discriminating against state religious schools in its allocation of funds.

3 scientists share Wolf physics prize

HERZLIYA. - Three scientists who are universally recognized as the principal founders of X-ray astrophysics have been chosen to share this year's Wolf Foundation Prize in Physics.

They are: Dr. Herbert Friedman of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory, Prof. Bruno Benedetto Rossi of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Prof. Riccardo Giacconi of the Space Telescope Science Institute and Johns Hopkins University.

IN BRIEF

18 years in prison for Netanyahu killing

TEL AVIV (Itim). - A minor who was found guilty of killing a 75-year-old Netanyahu woman while attempting to snatch her handbag, and later of throttling to death one of his accomplices, was sentenced Monday, to 18 years in prison by the Tel Aviv District Court.

The elderly victim died of a fractured skull she sustained when she was thrown to the ground by the three purse snatchers. Later in prison, the minor, who is now 18, killed his accomplice Sammy Biton, who had threatened him after he had divulged to police the name of a third accomplice, Michael Marciano.

Mail delivery drags in Jerusalem

In-city mail takes longer to be delivered in Jerusalem than in either Tel Aviv or Haifa.

The Communications Ministry spokesman has released the figures for the latest monthly survey on the length of time it took for letters to be delivered in different parts of the country. The average for the entire country was 3.1 days, with 70 per cent of all letters being delivered within 3 days.

In-city mail took an average of 3 days to be delivered in Jerusalem; 2.6 days in Tel Aviv; and 1.6 days in Haifa. The spokesman noted that letters dropped in the special yellow boxes in Jerusalem took an average of 2.2 days for delivery compared with the average of 3.2 days for letters mailed through regular boxes.

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Former U.S. official: Arabs doubt Washington can be an honest broker

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - The Arab states have lost confidence in the ability of the U.S. to serve as an even-handed broker, according to Michael Sterner, former U.S. assistant secretary of state for Mid-Eastern and Asian affairs.

Speaking at a colloquium in Haifa University's Jewish-Arab Centre, Sterner said that the Arabs perceive the U.S. as being "locked in close alliance with Israel."

Sterner, who was involved in the Camp David negotiations, does not foresee any new U.S. peace initiative in the next six months. Washington is preoccupied with domestic issues and is in any case "fatigued with the whole Israel-Arab thing," he said. It cannot produce something from nothing and it is up to the parties to come up with ideas of their own.

But, "once you start negotiating, parties do change their minds and

avenues may open that are not even perceivable now," he stressed. This was proven at Camp David, where not only Moshe Dayan, who had publicly "preferred Sharm el Sheikh to peace" but Menachem Begin himself had agreed to give up the whole of Sinai.

"The real problem in the peace process is not whether Israel should agree to an international conference but if it is ready to negotiate the future of the West Bank," he said.

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Not enough
being done
to bring
Ethiopian
to Israel

THERE IS a sense in which overall Arab attitudes towards Israel — the rising surface hostility notwithstanding — have been undergoing a marked change for the better since the late Egyptian president Anwar Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem in November 1977 and the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty which followed 16 months later.

In the restricted field of what is generally known as "the literature of the conflict," this change has taken the form of a considerable leap toward normalcy. Israel, which had habitually been perceived by Arab writers and publicists as some esoteric, alien, evil and often demonic creation, has gradually begun to be viewed in the general normal contexts of international, regional and inter-Arab relations and concerns.

This process of normalization — which can actually be traced back to the Six-Day War and especially to the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War — is now also reflected in the fact that in recent Arabic books and publications Israel no longer figures as a separate subject to be given separate treatment as though it were situated in a vacuum. Overwhelmingly, Israel is now seen as one of the power-political facts of life.

Time was when Arab book markets were flooded with titles like *Israeli Studies*, *Understanding Israel*, *Israel and the World*, *Freemasonry*, *Conspiracy and Zionism* and *Freemasonry*. These days, one is much more likely to find titles relating to the peace process and how Israel's concept of peace differs basically from that of the Arabs; or on Sadat's open-door policies and how they finally led to a sell-out in the form of the Camp David accords; or Israel's inroads in Egyptian academic institutions, and similar topics.

Two volumes in this line of writ-

ing, *Ikhtrag al-Aql al-Masri* (The Infiltration of the Egyptian Mind) and *Al-Muwajaha* (The Confrontation) are worthy of scrutiny.

That's not because of the richness of the material offered, nor the erudition of their authors, but for what they tend to tell us about how a certain part of the Egyptian intelligentsia — primarily the left — now view Israel and Egyptian-Israeli relations. And although their attitude may not necessarily be less hostile, Israel is now treated as a state among other states.

THE TITLE of Rif'at Sid-Ahmad's *Ikhtrag al-Aql al-Masri*, published in Cairo in 1985, is as typical of the change as it is instructive.

The Arabic word *ikhtrag*, here rendered "infiltration," in fact denotes a far more active and invariably violent kind of operation. In military jargon, in which it is mostly used, it means "piercing," "penetration" and "disruption."

But in either sense, the word conveys the degree to which Israel has

Overwhelmingly, Israel is now seen as one of the power-political facts of life.

established itself as a fact — to the extent that its influence can even penetrate the Egyptian consciousness — a previously unheard-of claim.

Consisting of two parts, a "study" and "documents," Sid-Ahmad's book — of which this is the second edition — is a poorly organized and somewhat haphazard compilation. The "study" part, which adds up to just over 40 of the book's 110 pages, covers such subjects as "the political role of the American University of

Cairo," a survey of political trends amongst the children of Egypt's political elite based on a field study conducted among the students of that university, and a piece on "the phenomenon" of joint research projects in Egyptian academic institutions, again undertaken mostly under American auspices. Of the "documents," totalling eight in number, only one — the last — deals directly with Israeli efforts to "penetrate" the Egyptian mind.

It consists of a list said to contain "research projects conducted by the Israel Academic Centre in Egypt during the years 1982-1985." In reality, however, it gives a straight list of lectures organized by and given in the Centre about once a month and reportedly attended by a handful of Egyptian teachers and students. In a note appended to the list, Sid-Ahmad is careful to point out that the "research projects" given there are only those "conducted by Israel in Egypt directly." However, he adds, "there are of course other such projects conducted through American or European Jewish scholars and by way of Western institutions close to Israel."

LESS SLOPPY though informed by the same sort of approach is *The Confrontation*, an occasional publication brought out every year or so by a body calling itself the Commit-

Israel's image in Egypt's eyes

Nissim Rejwan

tee for the Defence of National Culture. The issue under review is the third in a new series (the 10th in all) and its publication coincides with the seventh anniversary of Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

The Committee itself is plainly in all-out opposition to the present regime in Cairo, and its members are all former supporters and spokesmen of the Nasserist school of thought and tend to blame all Egypt's woes and failures on Sadat and his policies; they also oppose President Hosni Mubarak's regime in so far as he is perceived as Sadat's heir and disciple.

The editors and leading contributors to *Al-Muwajaha* include such prominent men and women of the Egyptian left as Dr. Latifa al-Zayyat, Muhsin 'Awadh, Salah 'Issa, Dr. Sayid al-Bahravi, Dr. 'Afaf Murad, and the historian Dr. Abdel 'Azim Anis.

As a matter of fact, the Committee for the Defence of National Culture was the offspring of a conference held by a number of Egyptian intellectuals at that party's headquarters a few days after the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was signed in the spring of 1979. Among its publications so far are pamphlets

with titles such as *No to Zionism*, *Israel and the Zionist Blueprint*, *Egyptian Intellectuals Against the Hebrew University*, *Have the Palestinians Sold their Land?* and *The Sabra and Shatila Massacres: A Year After*. The Committee's first publication was devoted exclusively to a rejoinder to Tawfiq al-Hakim's pronouncements in support of Sadat's peace initiative.

Curiously enough, in the issue of *Al-Muwajaha* under discussion pride of place is given to a study of a subject that has nothing to do with Israel or the peace process — "Education and the Falsification of the Students' Consciousness" by Dr. Abdel Basi Abdel Mu'ti. This is followed by an article of less than four pages with the pompous title, "Prolegomenon to the Study of Cultural Relations between Egypt and Israel," by Hazim Hashim. The piece is worthy of close scrutiny only in so far as it reflects its author's — and the publishers' — idea of "cultural relations" — and the enormous gap which seems to span the respective concepts Cairo and Jerusalem have about "normalization" in the cultural sphere.

WHILE ISRAELIS may tend to think of normalization in terms of comprehensive trade, cultural and educational ties, Cairo's concept of the term is far less all-embracing. In

this context, an Egyptian newspaper reporter's encounters with the Israeli embassy press attaché (one of Hashim's examples) represents a giant step in the normalization process.

Hashim complains, to start with, about the seemingly insurmountable difficulties he claims to have confronted in his attempts to obtain relevant facts and documents about the size and extent of the *tabi* (normalization), especially where the process was taking place on official levels. For close on two years, he writes, he has been engaged in his research — aimed, he points out, at finding out the truth at the source — and has been watching with surprise and dismay how everything that has

While Israelis may tend to think of normalization in terms of comprehensive ties, Cairo's concept is far less all-embracing.

so far been written on the subject relied on books and newspapers published outside Egypt, whether in Arabic or in other languages. This he considers to be a thoroughly deplorable practice, adding however that the excessive secretiveness of the Egyptian bureaucracy renders the task of obtaining official information and documents on the subject well nigh impossible.

Having said this, Hashim turns to relating examples of normalization. They turn out to be very scanty and totally lacking in real significance.

They include an exhibition of paintings and sculptures by an Egyptian woman artist sponsored by the Israeli embassy; a collection of short stories by a young Egyptian writer

published and printed under Israeli auspices; an Egyptian journalist's visit to Israel and somewhat unduly positive impressions; and the aforementioned example of a newspaper reporter working for a "major publishing firm" who establishes "openly friendly relations with the press attaché at the Israeli embassy."

Finally, following this list of would-be acts of normalization of relations with Israel in the cultural sphere, Hashim concludes:

"The study which we are conducting is still incomplete, and it is possible that we will be confronted by great difficulties. However, this is of urgent importance, so that the people would learn about what has happened and what is still happening in the sphere of normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel in the world of culture. What we have surveyed here are but a few samples and instances out of many..."

Apart from these two articles, given under the general title "Studies," *Al-Muwajaha* contains six "Reports" — a translation from the French of a report on "The American Cultural Presence in Egypt," an article on "American Intelligence and the Making of News," based on an article by a British reporter whose name is given as Steve Weizman; a report on "the crisis in UNESCO," and an article on a gathering of Moroccan Jews in Rabat, including many Jews from Israel. The fact that the Moroccan authorities allowed such a gathering — here dubbed "congress" — and the welcome extended to it, the writer asserts, "constitutes a dangerous breakthrough in Morocco's official role in implementing the American-Israeli blueprint for peace in the Arab region, and an attempt to consolidate the Camp David procedure and extend it to other Arab states."

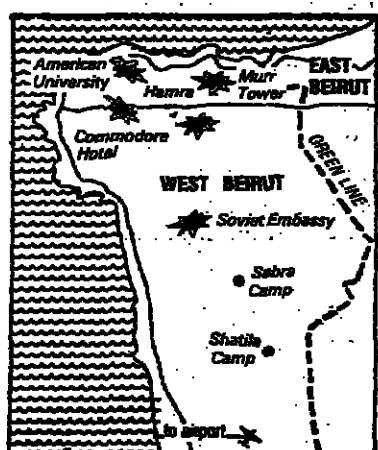
Syria's gamble

Reuters/Beirut

SYRIA'S DECISION to send up to 10,000 troops into West Beirut, where Arab, Israeli and western armies in turn have tried and failed to keep control during Lebanon's 12-year-old civil war, is a calculated risk.

The move already has antagonized Christian and PLO leaders, and is likely to be viewed with suspicion by pro-Iranian militiamen, political analysts say.

The subdued reaction of Israel and the United States, on the other hand, is seen as lack of opposition if not tacit approval. The United States, Arab moderates and the Soviet Union have given cautious nods to Syrian peace efforts in Lebanon in recent months.



The key points of recent West Beirut militia clashes and Syrian army deployment.

Moslem leaders say the Syrians will deploy only in West Beirut, stopping short of the Green Line battlefront with the Christian East and staying clear of Shi'ite southern suburbs, a haven for pro-Iranian groups.

Apparently to reassure potential opponents, Damascus Radio said Saturday: "Syria has no ambitions in Lebanon. It is not with one faction against the other."

Prior to Sunday's troop deployment in West Beirut, Syria's policy had been to avoid such intervention, preferring to influence events through its allies, especially the big Shi'ite Amal militia, which it supported in repeated campaigns against Palestinian fighters in re-

fugee camps. But last week's fighting pitted Amal against Syria's Druze and communist allies in a city where militia anarchy had already driven out foreigners, hamstringing the economy and terrified many ordinary citizens.

Also alarming for Syrian President Hafez Assad was the stalemate around Amal-besieged refugee camps defended mainly by loyalists of PLO chief Yasser Arafat, and the growing power of pro-Iranian militiamen.

"Syria is keen to block the road before death-mongers, agents, traders of religion, sectarianism and those who dream of restoring an abstract notion that was the core of the 'resistance' for the Lebanese crisis," Damascus radio said recently.

"What happened in West Beirut was unjustified... It was sparked by suspicious forces, which do not care about Beirut being burned, to keep alive their hopes of reaching the negotiating table with the United States and Israel," it added.

Political analysts said the Syrian deployment would bring an early end to the four-month Amal-Palestinian war, which has cost some 800 lives and aroused international concern.

"Arafat has lost the political battle in Lebanon," said one analyst. "He was trying to regain his strength. But he lost when Arab countries declined to antagonize Assad at the Kuwait (Islamic summit)," last month.

Another political source said the Syrian presence would guard universities, western embassies and government institutions against interference by Shi'ite extremists.

All militia activities, including those of the pro-Iranian Hizbullah (Party of God), would be restricted. "The Syrian presence will seal off West Beirut from the effects of the (Shi'ite) southern suburbs on Beirut's institutions and Universities," the source said.

The Syrians face a substantial task in trying to clear the streets of gunmen.

"The militiamen are really enjoying the havoc and hate the idea of giving all this up for the Syrians or anyone else," said one West Beirut resident in touch with rival groups.



Syrian troops move towards West Beirut (above) and deploy artillery positions there.



U.S. Moslems' Beirut failure

Samir F. Ghattas/Amman

AMERICAN MOSLEM Mohamed Mehdi went to Beirut scolding U.S. President Ronald Reagan's ban on Lebanon visits, with a proposal to trade foreign hostages for peace.

Instead, Mehdi and his assistant, Dale Shaheen, huddled in their hotel rooms for three days last week as gunmen fought in the lobby and streets below.

The ravaged Commodore Hotel, once a centre for foreign journalists, was looted of its liquor, cutlery and television sets. Mehdi and Shaheen, the last two guests, were robbed at gunpoint of \$1,400 before giving up their mission and fleeing the city last week.

In an interview Sunday, Mehdi described West Beirut as a "Frankenstein which ran out of control."

Yet Mehdi, en route back to New York, vowed to return in a month or two to continue his effort to free 26 foreign hostages from the extremist Shi'ite Moslems who hold them captive.

"We are committed to this humanitarian cause," he said. "We have an important role to play in the future."

The 58-year-old Mehdi heads the American-Arab relations committee and is secretary-general of the New York-based National Council on Islamic Affairs.

The Arab Relations Committee and the National Council on Islamic Affairs have about 40,000 members in the United States. Mehdi said their purpose is to explain about Islam as a religion and a culture.

Mehdi claims he was the victim of several attacks in the United States in the 1960s and 1970s by what he described as "Zionist hoodlums."

The attackers in New York "broke my back, they burned our offices. We ended up in hospital."

Our home was threatened many times to be bombed," Mehdi said in the telephone interview from his Amman airport hotel.

But Mehdi admitted that "all the horrors that we experienced in New York by the Zionists was not as (bad as) our experience in Beirut."

"The city of Beirut was raped and we were violated," Mehdi said. "They robbed us and we protested to them. They took our money and my camera," the grey-haired Mehdi added.

But Mehdi, who studied American constitutional law to obtain his doctorate in political science, still insisted that Reagan's recently-imposed ban on travel to Lebanon was "a violation of the constitution."

Describing Reagan as "the big brother," Mehdi said the president "has no right to limit the freedom of citizens. The American citizen has the right to travel at his own responsibility."

Mehdi also defied an executive order forbidding travel to Col. Muammar Gaddafi's Libya last year at a time of tension between the United States and Libya as the Reagan administration accused Libya of harbouring international terrorists.

He visited the Libyan capital of Tripoli in February 1986, to give two lectures on the American constitution.

Mehdi said he met then with Gaddafi and his deputy, Abdul-Salam Jalloud.

Mehdi was born in Baghdad, Iraq, and began studies at the University of California at Berkeley in 1949. He says he has written several books, including the 1980 paperback, "Peace in Palestine."

On Aids and alcohol

Bahgat Badie
Cairo

MOSLEM DOCTORS and religious experts have agreed to set up a centre to give religious rulings on controversial medical problems ranging from the killer disease Aids to alcohol in medicine. The Cairo centre would cooperate with similar bodies in other Moslem cities with a view to reaching a coordinated Islamic view on medical matters.

Judging by subjects raised at a conference of specialists from 23 Moslem countries earlier this month, the proposed centre will have no shortage of topics on which to pronounce.

The meeting, sponsored by Cairo's 1,000-year-old Al-Azhar University, heard papers on issues as varied as womb-renting, milk banks, sperm banks, female circumcision and chicken feed.

One conference paper said Moslem countries were less exposed to the Aids virus which breaks down the body's immunity to disease, than

presence could not be compared with its spread in the developed world.

Another research paper urged Moslems not to eat poultry fed on fodder made of offal and dried fish. It said it was unhygienic and was contrary to Islamic teachings against the eating of carcasses of animals or birds.

Author Mohammed Motaweh, former dean of Cairo's Al-Azhar University Faculty of Medicine, said he discovered that poultry fed on offal or dried fish contained high quantities of uric acid, responsible for some kidney ailments.

Some scholars criticized practices such as artificial insemination, womb-renting, abortion and mercy killing. One said the world was moving towards introduction of medicines free of alcohol, in line with Islam's ban on alcoholic drinks.

THE RESEARCHERS concluded that Moslem countries were less affected than others by homosexuality and, although several Aids cases had been discovered, the disease's

Islam's new recruit

Ya'acov Lamdan

THE EGYPTIAN film actress, Sama al-Baroodi, who played the seductive starring role in the film *Wandering Birds*, shown here recently on Arabic-language TV, has made a dramatic break with her past.

The former movie star recently turned religious, even to the point of meticulously observing the minutiae of Islam. The actress, who has starred in over 20 Egyptian films — causing a sensation some years back in a nude, shower-room scene in the film *Melaili's Hamam* — has now become a deeply pious woman. She has travelled to Mecca on pilgrimage and has exchanged her height-of-fashion clothes for long, all-enveloping garments and head-coverings.

Al-Baroodi appears to be the only film actress in the Arab world who has been caught up in the fundamentalism sweeping the region in recent years.

Unlike the majority of the newly-religious, Al-Baroodi had a great deal to lose by the sharp transition from her secular, show-biz life to that of the traditional housewife prescribed by custom. Since she first opted for the Moslem way of life, the movie actress has refused to explain her extraordinary decision to the media, which has been clamouring for interviews.

Some of her acquaintances attribute her resolve to a delayed reaction to charges that her films were a bad influence on the young. Others claim it was her husband, film actor Hassan Yusuf, himself from a religious background, who was responsible for her decision. Yusuf evidently preferred his wife in a docile, traditional role, it was claimed, that as a successful actress earning more than he, who might up and leave him one day — a fairly common occurrence in the entertainment world.

Al-Baroodi, who had disappeared from the gossip columns altogether in the last couple of months, surfaced again recently when a Cairo cinema decided to re-screen *Melaili's Hamam*, showing the unclad Al-Baroodi. She begged journalist friends to prevail upon the cinema manager to forgo the piquant ven-



Sama al-Baroodi

ture, but when the latter proved uncooperative, she was forced to take out a paid newspaper ad pointing out that the film was an old one in which she was merely following the directions of her scriptwriters and

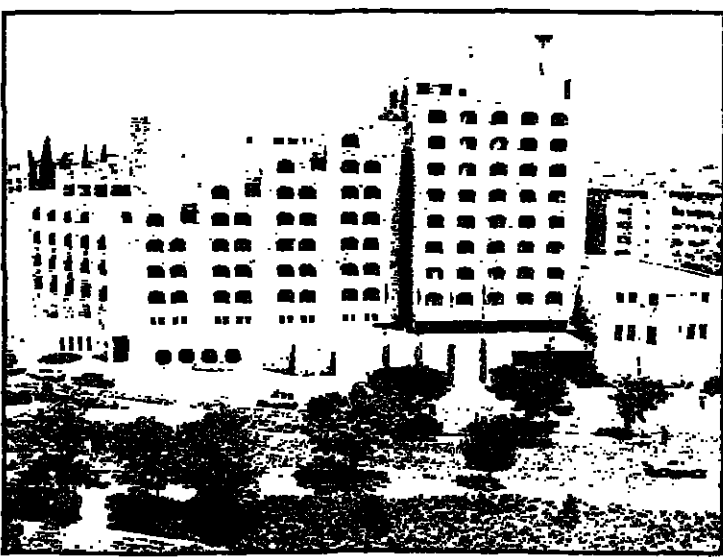
producers, as professional actresses must.

But in Cairo they are saying the repeat screening is drawing larger crowds and reaping bigger profits than when it was originally shown.

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Iron out flaws

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

CONSTRUCTION of Israel's first nuclear magnetic resonator complex will begin in a few weeks, and perhaps the only person in the country who really knows what to do with it is a 37-year-old, Romanian-born neuro-radiologist.

Dr. Moshe Gomori is known as a "genius" among his colleagues at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem, but he modestly says he "made a bit of a splash" in his field of science when in 1984 he suggested and proved a theory that in effect turns the human body inside out.

The Harvard Medical School graduate and father of six discovered that iron can be used to diagnose hemorrhages and tumors with the help of the nuclear magnetic resonator (NMR). His work has been so praised that the international giant, General Electric, finances his research for two months a year at the University of Pennsylvania, after which he returns home to Jerusalem.

Gomori was born in Romania and brought to Israel as an infant by his mother. His father remained behind, jailed for "political crimes," and died six years later. When Moshe was 10, his mother remarried and the family moved to New York. He studied at MIT, then medicine at Harvard and did his residency at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston.

He returned to Israel in December, 1980 with his Israeli-born wife and children, and found he was the only neuro-radiologist in Jerusalem. "People told me I was committing scientific and professional suicide by coming back at the end of my fellowship year at the University of Pennsylvania," he recalled in an in-

terview with *The Jerusalem Post*. The necessary equipment for his research was lacking in Israel, but he is able to use the latest technology on his General-Electric-financed sab-baticals.

Now, with the construction and installation of Israel's first NMR in the coming year or two, he will be able to use his expertise here.

Hadassah and the NMR manufacturer, Elscint, are spending nearly \$1 million on the machine, plus a large, aluminum-lined building to house it. The machine alone ordinarily costs \$2 million, but Elscint, which gains prestige from Israel having one of them, has offered it for a reduced price.

IN HIS pathfinding research published in the prestigious scientific journal *Radiology*, Dr. Gomori stated that iron is to NMR imaging what calcium is to conventional x-ray and CAT (coaxial tomography) scanning.

Dr. Gomori explains that iron provides a naturally occurring contrast material for NMR imaging and is very helpful in clinical diagnosis. By looking at the iron, he can detect bleeding at any stage, whether it is acute or chronic, and can determine whether it was caused by tumors, injury or malformation of the blood vessels. By studying the intensity of the iron, as well as its shape, in the NMR image, he can even state the age of the hemorrhage - if it is fresh or 20 years old.

Bleeding accompanies many diseases, such as tumors, heart attacks and strokes. Gomori's linking of iron and these diseases allows for the



Dr. Moshe Gomori studies depictions of the brain.

earlier detection of diseases whose diagnosis was until now possible only in surgery.

Until his research was published, no one realized that bleeding at any stage could be identified by the NMR. It was believed that only a CAT scanner could show fresh bleeding. Now it's accepted that bleeding at any stage of life can be diagnosed with the NMR.

Dr. Gomori gives as an example the case of a 65-year-old man who was taken to hospital abroad with difficulty in swallowing and a drooping in his face. A CAT scan showed a tumor in the lower brain and they were ready to send him to surgery.

But before surgery, Gomori suggested an NMR exam, which revealed a pattern of previous hemorrhages that had remained in the brain. He concluded that there had been no tumor, but only a benign, hidden malformation of blood vessels.

No operation was performed, and the patient's problems gradually improved on their own.

Dr. Gomori also found he could

identify tumors by looking at iron. A melanoma (skin cancer) can be distinguished by the high intensity of a special pigment. It was identified without surgical biopsies to remove tissue, which themselves can be dangerous.

THE YOUNG doctor notes that there are over 500 hospitals in the U.S. that already have NMR, and that such imaging procedures are completely harmless, unlike x-rays. There is no damage to pregnant women, as no radiation is involved, only magnetic fields and radio waves.

His idea about iron came to him nearly three years ago, and sent him back to physics research abandoned in the '50s.

Gomori believes that NMR will prove to be cost-efficient here, as abroad, despite the initial steep cost. This is because operations are found to be unnecessary, and hospitalization stays can be shortened. In addition, surgery when necessary can be done earlier, thus giving patients a better chance of surviving.

Fruitful new pastures

Andy Court

THE WAY that some people serve tea or coffee to guests arriving at their home, Ephraim Slor pours his visitors a tall glass of feijoa milkshake. And not just any kind of feijoa either, but "feijoa slor" - a variety of feijoa named after the man who was largely responsible for bringing this tart and sweet fruit out of the family garden and into the marketplace.

Slor the feijoa, tastes darn good. And Slor the man is a fruit pioneer, one of a number of farmers and scientists trying to develop new fruits and new varieties of existing fruits, in order to keep Israeli agriculture one step ahead of its international competitors.

When he began his work on the feijoa, Slor went from house to house, moshav to moshav, in a kind of talent hunt for the trees yielding the largest, tastiest fruit. But these days it is usually a matter of bringing exotic fruits from all over the world and seeing how well they can adapt to the soil and climate here.

The process of bringing the new species here is called "acclimatization," and it's a little like running an absorption center for fruits.

"Acclimatization for plants is not the same as acclimatization for people," said Professor Samuel Gazit, a subtropical fruit expert at the Hebrew University Faculty of Agriculture and the Volcani Institute.

"When people go from low altitude to high altitude, their bodies adapt," he said. "With plants it's not the same. What we are doing is more like selecting."

WHEN SCIENTISTS tried to bring mango plants here, for example, they found that the lime content of the soil and the cold winter weather in the coastal plane were not really right for the plants.

But, Slor said, "We felt that if our land wasn't suited to mangoes, we could make the mangoes suited to the land."

Researchers planted mango seedlings in soil with high lime content. From those few plants that survived, they developed a strong root-stock that could survive in limy soil.

They then took another batch of seedlings which yielded good fruit

and grafted them to the lime-resistant rootstock. As for the cold climate, the researchers decided to grow the fruit in warm parts of Israel rather than introduce a cold-resistant variety that Israel's European competitors might be able to imitate.

Today, mangoes currently command such high prices on the domestic market that farmers have not sent very much fruit abroad, Gazit said.

Not all kinds of trees will accept a

AMONG THE newest of exotic fruits that Israel has developed commercially, carambola (star fruit), lichee, and feijoa are among the best known. But babaco, tamarillo, and carambola could very well be the future. Babaco is a close relative of papaya but entirely different in taste. Gazit said, "It is almost unknown in the world except for Ecuador where it was from originally and New Zealand where they're trying to develop it."

The fruit has an appealing aroma and a very mild taste. Some people call it "diet papaya."



Carambola or star fruit.

(Lester J. Millman)

new graft the way mango could. For years and years, for example, researchers have been trying to develop a really good strain of papaya, a fruit which has the reputation of being very healthy.

The papaya effort, however, has never gotten very far using the traditional method of repeatedly selecting the seeds of the best plants until a good, uniform variety has been found.

Now scientists are beginning to use a relatively new method called vegetative propagation by tissue culture. By placing a piece of papaya plant in a test-tube with a specific set of nutrients, scientists are able to grow a new plant with the same traits.

It's thus possible to grow many papaya plants resembling one outstanding one, instead of relying on a basically hit-and-miss distribution of traits that would occur if the outstanding tree's seeds were planted and grown.

Tamarillo is sometimes called the "tree tomato," and it is indeed a close relative of the tomato. The taste even resembles the vegetable in some respects, but its color is a striking red or purple.

Pitaya is a kind of cactus that produces coloured fruits full of jelly-like substance with small seeds. Originally from Central America, the fruit not only has an interesting taste, but also a nice appearance. "It looks like a fruit that people will buy," Gazit said.

Because it might be able to grow in Israel's desert, the pitaya has aroused the interest of researchers at the Institute for Desert Research. All three of these new fruits are in the first stages of testing.

Though most of the fruits mentioned so far have been subtropical, researchers are also looking for new cold-weather crops from deciduous plants - things like blueberries, and blackberries, for example. Other researchers meanwhile are searching for new kinds of trees that will survive in desert climates.

Underdiagnosed ailment

Susan Bulba

HOW DOES a child feel who is constantly punished by his teachers and parents for noises and movements that he cannot control?

How does an intelligent, sensitive adult feel whose body movements are sometimes out of control?

Above all, what causes this painful condition, and how can it be cured? Doctors and scientists confronted these questions recently at the first Israeli-American symposium on the medical ailment known as Gilles de la Tourette, or Tourette Syndrome.

Drs. Amos Korczyn of Tel Aviv University and Donald Cohen of Yale University, co-chairmen of the symposium, expect that this and a follow-up symposium in June will change the picture of underdiagnosis of Tourette Syndrome in Israel. Although many people have never heard of it, Tourette Syndrome is not that rare. It affects one person in every 2,000 individuals, whether in Israel, the U.S. or China.

"Increased understanding of Tourette Syndrome will also help many thousands of others who suffer from related neuropsychiatric disorders, such as hyperactivity and attention deficit disorder, and obsessive compulsive disorder," says Dr. Cohen, director of Yale University's Child Study Center. A large percentage of Tourette patients suffer from these conditions as well.

A grant of \$140,000 from three American donors - Charles E. Smith, Samuel Cohen and Ralph Ochsmann, all of Washington, D.C. - made possible this symposium and one in June. Contributions also came from the Israel Ministry of Health, from Tel Aviv University and its Sackler Medical School, and from the Unipharm pharmaceutical company.

The American grant will also pro-

vide \$40,000 a year for three years to encourage the Israeli scientific community to do research on Tourette Syndrome.

Many Israeli physicians attending the symposium, like pediatric neurologist Raphael Weitz of Beilinson - who has 20 young Tourette patients - said that under present conditions they are so swamped with patient care that they cannot conduct research. The grant will provide research staff for such clinicians so that they can collect valuable data from their many patients.

TOURETTE SYNDROME patients suffer from tics. However, tics are very common in childhood, and many disappear. Not all tics are Tourette Syndrome.

Tics can be motor tics, that is uncontrolled movements such as eye blinking - usually the first symptom to appear - head tossing, or facial grimacing.

Tourette Syndrome also includes vocal tics. These are uncontrolled noises or utterances such as repetition of words. They can be grunts, barks, or shrieks, or such subtle noises as throat clearing or sniffing. About 20 per cent of patients have coprolalia, the uncontrolled use of swear or aggressive words.

These tics come and go over time. A Tourette patient may seem to improve; then a month later a new tic will appear. The tics must last for more than a year for the condition to be defined as Tourette Syndrome.

Tourette Syndrome is a lifelong condition once it appears, usually around age 7. There is as yet no diagnostic test for it. It is especially

difficult to diagnose in its early stages, when it may appear as a simple tic or common hyperactivity.

Because of this hyperactivity, many children with a tendency to Tourette Syndrome are given stimulants such as Ritalin in their early school years. Unfortunately these stimulants in some cases seem to make the tics come on faster and stronger. With 20,000 children in Israel and one million children in the U.S. today on Ritalin, many local doctors are unaware of the connection of Ritalin and tics.

Very little is known about the basic causes of Tourette Syndrome. Until 1960 it was generally treated as an emotional disorder. Then it was discovered that the drug haloperidol had a dramatic effect. From that time, most doctors decided its basic cause was a disturbance in brain functioning which was reflected in tics and associated behaviour problems. Most recently, research has demonstrated that there are genetic causes which can be expressed either in Tourette Syndrome, in multiple lifelong tics, and perhaps even in obsessive compulsions.

Evidence presented by Dr. David Pauls of Yale at the conference indicates that the condition is genetic, and is probably a dominant genetic trait.

TOURETTE sufferers in Israel may face special problems, according to medical anthropologist Shulamit Gunders of Bar Ilan University. "In the religious community, parents may avoid getting treatment for their child because a diagnosis will spoil a potential *shidduch*," says Dr. Gunders.

A second special problem for Israeli Tourette sufferers is that the

condition can be a bar to serving in the army, especially as it is aggravated by stress. "Army service affects your whole life," says Dr. Gunders. "When you apply for a job or housing, people want to see your reserve duty certificate."

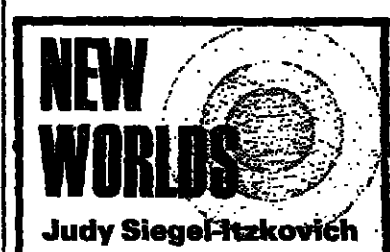
Tourette Syndrome pioneer Dr. Arthur Shapiro once theorized that this was an ailment especially common to Ashkenazi Jews. Newer studies seem to show that Shapiro received that impression because he did his work in New York City. Dr. Pinchas Lerman of Beilinson, one of Israel's first pediatric neurologists, says that Tourette Syndrome seems to be more common among Jews, but this may be related to who does the research and who uses the medical facilities.

"Tourette Syndrome is not fatal, but it can be terrible. It places a lifelong burden on children and their families," says Dr. Cohen. "Children with Tourette Syndrome have special problems in the classroom, because the noises they make may seem disruptive to the teacher even when tolerated by other students."

"These children have sometimes actually been excluded from school. Yet with special help, such children can function in school, in scouts, and in society. They can progress in the classroom if the teacher allows them, for example, to use a tape recorder instead of writing."

THE FOUR founding members of the Israel Tourette Syndrome Association, formed just last August, attended the Tel Aviv symposium and spoke at the closing press conference.

Those interested in joining or supporting the Israel Tourette Syndrome Association can write to P.O. Box 4079, Ramat Gan 52140.



A SMALL test site to examine the practicality of solar-power stations is being built in just two months. The site is in the Negev and will be dedicated today.

The test site will be used by the Luz company, which has already proven itself on a commercial scale in California. There, four giant solar-power stations are supplying electricity to 55,000 homes in Southern California.

But there are apparently more sceptics in Israel, and Luz has to take smaller steps here. At the Negev test site, it will demonstrate the computerized tracking system used in the design and operation of solar-power stations. Giant mirrors shaped like a parabola are directed by a computer to "lock onto" the sun's path in the sky, and to obtain maximum amounts of heat as the day passes. This heats up oil, which in turn produces steam and generates electricity.

The Negev site is controlled by the Ministry of Energy, which is interested in determining the cost-effectiveness and reliability of the solar power station.

Solar sceptics



Solar energy collectors in California. The same model has been installed in the Negev.

A NEW KIND of fungus is being used at Tel Aviv University to remove heavy metals from industrial waste water, which can then be recycled for other purposes.

Prof. Margalit Galun, a botanist at TAU, says she has developed an economical method of using fungi to clean waste water. Heavy metal, including mercury, uranium, lead, zinc, cadmium, nickel, silver, copper and chromium, can be filtered out by the fungus, which is very absorbent. This species of fungus can even be grown on waste products from the food and beverage industry.

She found the right fungus when she noticed an unwashed coffee-cup left in her laboratory. A film of fungus was growing on the coffee residue, and she decided to experiment with it. That fungus proved to be the right one.

Professor Galun's method has been shown to work well in the lab. The university is now seeking funds to apply it in industry.

A different fungus, one that gobbles up fungi of other types, has been isolated at the Hebrew University's Rehovot branch, and is viewed as a hopeful weapon against powdery mildew disease, which seriously damages agricultural products.

The parasitic *Amelomyces quisqualis* was found by a team headed by Dr. Abraham Shtenberg to cause a significant decrease in the mildew disease that affects the growth of fruit trees, grain, flowers and vegetable crops. Chemicals are usually

used to fight it, but these pollute the environment and are expensive.

Cucumber plants were helped most by the fungus, and showed considerably higher yields than untreated plants, says Shtenberg.

Biotechnology Applications Ltd., an Israeli company, recently decided to finance the continuation of this research in the hope of commercializing it.

A SHAVER that runs on laser beams and needs to be used less often than a conventional electric shaver has been developed by a French inventor.

According to the London Observer, Eugene Politzer has applied for a patent for his unusual device, which uses a helium neon tube.

The laser is beamed along the inside of a protective mesh. Hairs protruding through the mesh conduct heat from the beam down to their base and are burned off. A small fan blows air through the mesh and prevents it from heating up.

Politzer claims that his invention can obliterate the five o'clock shadow of men who shaved in the morning but have a heavy growth of facial hair by the evening. He says that since more of the hair shaft is removed each time, one needs to shave less often.

INSTEAD of taking fingerprints at the scene of a crime, police may soon be taking a print of the suspect's DNA.

A recent article in *Time* magazine disclosed that samples of blood, semen or hair roots found at the scene of a crime can be compared with that of a suspect.

Since no two people, except for identical twins, have the same genetic characteristics, the DNA forms a pattern as unique as a fingerprint.

A geneticist at the University of Leicester in England "cut" genetic DNA prints into segments with enzymes and arranged them into patterns. No two were alike.

The technique has already been used to identify murderers, including a 17-year-old British youth who strangled a 15-year-old girl to death. The tests are currently expensive and take several weeks, but police believe that the cost will fall with further refinements.

MUSIC REVIEW

Vocal variety

HAIFA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY - Subscription Concert No. 6, Gilah Yaron, Soprano; Eli Hershkovitz, clarinet, and Lita Zvi, piano. (Haifa, Beit Harofe, February 21.) Spohr's 6 G-minor songs Op. 183 for Soprano, Clarinet and Piano; Schumann's "Arise" - 5 Pieces by Sylvia Plath; Schubert's Songs: Women in G-dance's poem "Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" Op. 129 for Soprano, Clarinet and Piano.

THIS VARIED vocal programme attracted less than the usual full-capacity audience but everything was still prepared with care and commitment. In the first three songs by Ludwig Spohr (1784-1859), however, there was little balance between the singing and the accompaniment. Starting with the "Wienlied," though, there was an improvement with better teamwork and richer dynamic gradings. Spohr, by the way, was a German violinist, composer and conductor and was

one of the first men to use a baton to conduct.

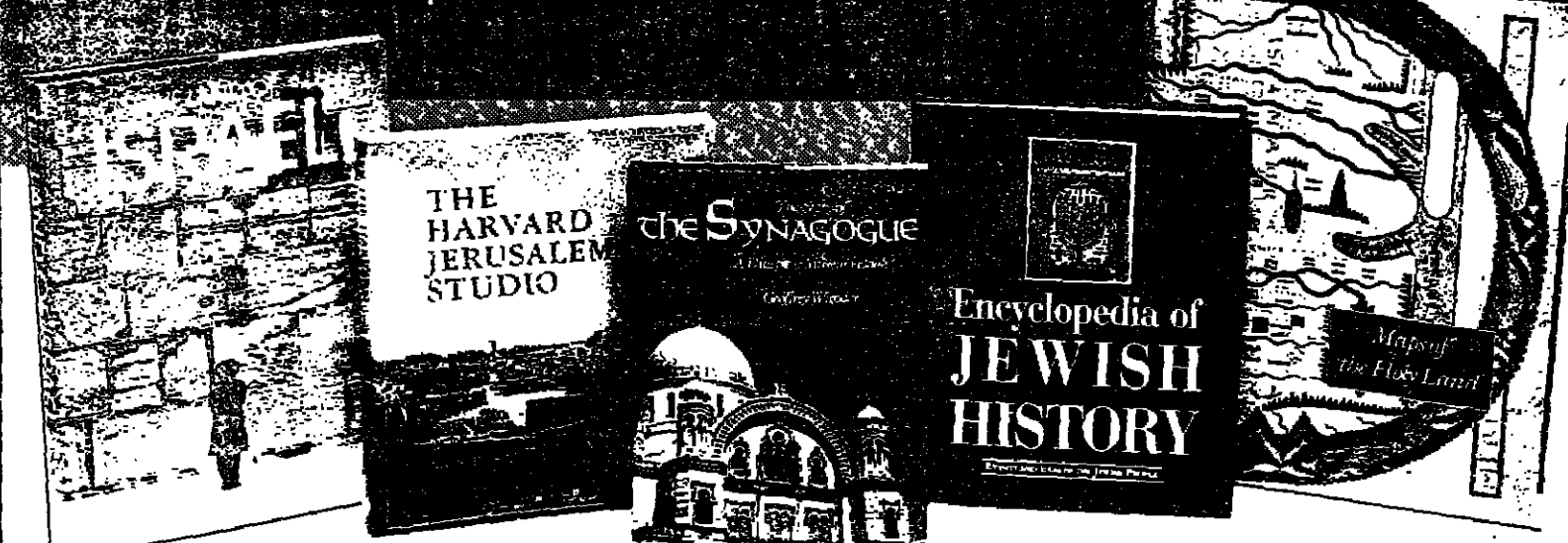
The modern American composer and author Ned Rorem (born 1923) was a pupil of Aaron Copland and Virgil Thomson. His work "Arise" is based on the autobiographical poetry of Sylvia Plath who committed suicide. In this composition of overwhelming sadness and trouble, soprano Gilah Yaron gave a convincing performance. The piece aroused interest and served to provide variety to the evening's repertoire.

The second part of the programme was devoted to Schubert. Yaron sang with precision and a clear and pleasant voice, and Lita Zvi's piano accompaniment in "Gretchen am Spinnrade," one of Schubert's first major lieder, was admirably played.

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Not enough
being done
to bring
Ethiopians
to Israel

SPORTS

TENNIS

Casualties as fifth 'Grand Slam' event begins

KEY BISCAYNE (Reuters).—Jonas Svensson became the first seeded player to fall in the \$1.8 million International Players' tennis championships yesterday. He went out 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 to fellow-Swede Thomas Hogstedt.

Seventh-seeded Henri Leconte was also knocked out of the tournament — but without setting foot on court.

The Frenchman was beaten by injury and withdrew from the event to return to Switzerland for surgery on a nagging back problem, diagnosed as a slipped disc.

Jimmy Arias and Aaron Krickstein, who at the weekend were named for the singles roles in the United States Davis Cup first-round match against Paraguay, celebrated their call-up with impressive first-round wins.

Arias defeated stubborn Swedish competitor Jan Gunnarsson 6-2, 3-6, 7-5, 7-5 and Krickstein beat compatriot Matt Anger 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Other first-round winners on the opening day of this lucrative two-week event, which follows a 'Grand Slam' tournament format, with 128 draws in both the men's and women's events, included South African-born American John Kriek and Kevin Carrist, sixth-seeded Mikhail Medved of Czechoslovakia, Ulf Stenlund of Sweden and Ramesh Krishnan of India.

John McEnroe, who is not competing in the singles, has agreed to take part in the doubles. He will line up with compatriot Matt Mitchell.

The day's major surprise at the championships came in the women's singles, where eleventh-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria crashed to Silke Meier of West Germany 3-6, 7-6 (9-7), 6-4.

Eighth-seeded Kathy Rinaldi of the United States also looked as though she might make an early exit, but she fought hard and eventually beat stubborn Elena Ratinch of South Africa 7-6 (8-6), 6-3.

Israel's Amos Mansdorf and Gilead Bloom begin their challenge in the remaining first round matches being played today.

Zagreb prepares for student games

By DARKO PREVIC

Special to The Jerusalem Post
For the past two years Zagreb has been sight of frenetic preparations for the 14th Student Olympic Games — *Universiade '87* — that will take place here from July 30 to 1988.

Now, the hectic preparations are near completion. A total of 100 million dollars were invested in Zagreb, so that *Universiade '87* will be the most significant sports event of 1987. The city has been given a major face-lift: facades of many of the city's 18th and 19th century buildings, palaces and houses have been renovated. Sports facilities have been modified and others have been built anew. Zagreb's main Square of the Republic is undergoing complete reconstruction at an estimated cost of 10 million dollars.

Some 150 countries are expected to participate at the games. The organizing committee has received confirmation from 50 countries, the most recent one from Israel. Competitions will be held in 12 sport disciplines: athletics, basketball, fencing, gymnastics, judo, diving, water polo, tennis, volleyball, rowing and kayaking.

Over 2000 journalists are expected to follow events and teams. The *Universiade's* spokesman said at a recent press conference. He added that Israeli journalists traveling to Zagreb will be allowed into Yugoslavia without a mandatory entry visa. Strict security precautions will be taken for the safety of the participants and Israeli are to be accommodated in a building with other teams from friendly nations to avoid any inconvenience.

BASKETBALL

Haifa's two teams win big at home

By DON GOULD

Post Basketball Reporter
The National Basketball League's rush into the semi-finals of the playoffs has been held up for another week as Maccabi Haifa will visit Elitzur Netanya on Sunday for the rubber match of their best-of-three series.

Haifa were stopped by Elitzur in the opening game in Netanya, but came roaring back this week and took an easy 102-77 home court victory. Ari Rosenberg led the well-rounded Haifa attack netting 22 points and Doron Shefa added 18 while pulling down a dozen rebounds.

While the Haifa (fifth place finishers in the league) and Elitzur (fourth place) series has followed the expected form, as has Maccabi Tel Aviv's two game wipeout of 8th place Betar Tel Aviv, the other two quarter final series were completely topsy-turvy.

Seventh place Hapoel Haifa — a team that worked their way through three coaches, spent most of the season trying to avoid relegation, and were often called the laughing stock of the league — went into their quarter-final series against the much more fancied Hapoel Holon as decided underdogs.

They opened the series by pinning an overtime loss on Holon and returned home this week to mop Hapoel Holon a second time 89-78. Haifa's two contract players Laron Houston and Kirkpatrick Wells, with 23 and 21 points respectively, led the attack against a shell-shocked Hapoel Holon. Holon, second place finishers in regular league play, now will drop down to the competition for positions five through eight. Hapoel Haifa move up to the semi-finals.

Hapoel Tel Aviv finished regular season play in 6th place. Many basketball pundits felt that they were lucky to do that well. Not once during any of the 22 regular season games, was coach Moshe Weintraub able to get full use of his regular starting five. Chaim Zlotnikman was lost in pre-season, followed shortly thereafter by captain Mike Largey. Since neither of them are expected to play until next season,



ON TARGET — Laron Mercer

Hapoel Tel Aviv's chances in the playoffs were not considered bright. The prospect of meeting highly-touted Hapoel Galil Elyon in the opening quarter-final series was not encouraging.

Led by their twin towers, Laron Mercer and Don Robinson, Hapoel Tel Aviv came from behind to trip Galil Elyon in the first game at Kfar Giladi. This week they completed their sweep by nipping Galil Elyon 92-89 at Ussishkin Stadium. Mercer and Robinson put on a dazzling scoring display, chipping in with 35 and 29 points respectively. Tel

Aviv's guards Amos Frishman and Yisrael Kalish defensively put the clamps on Galil Elyon's backcourt while accounting for 22 offensive points between them.

As a result of the major upsets, one semi-final series will pit both upstarts against each other on March 4. This will ensure that one of them will make it all the way to the finals.

The other semi-final series will see champions Maccabi Tel Aviv go against the winner of next Sunday's Elitzur Netanya, Maccabi Haifa contest.

CRICKET

Kiwi-Windies don't go for it

WELLINGTON (Reuters). — The first cricket test between New Zealand and the West Indies in Wellington fizzled to a draw yesterday with neither side willing to take the risks that might have produced a result.

New Zealand carried their second innings total to 386 for five before declaring at the tea break. At the close, the West Indies had reached 50 for two in their second innings.

The final day was a stalemate with both teams simply going through the motions.

In Jaipur, India, the third day's play in the third cricket test between India and Pakistan was abandoned yesterday without a ball being bowled.

An overnight thunderstorm had left a soggy outfield and a wet wicket.

India scored 459 for 8 wickets in the first innings at stumps on the second day. Monday was a rest day. Indian skipper Kapil Dev is expected to declare the innings and go flat out to dismiss the tourists twice.

There was speculation in Jaipur that Pakistan might refuse to play today, pleading the ground is still unfit.



DIPLOMACY. — Pakistan's president Zia ul-Haq greets Indian star batsman Kapil Gavaskar as part of his 'cricket diplomacy' meetings with his Indian counterpart Rajiv Gandhi during the current Test match in Jaipur. While the two leaders' meetings seem to have been a success, diplomacy on the pitch threatens to break down over the state of the wicket. (Reuters photo)

NBA

Super assists

NEW YORK (AP). — Nate McMillan had help from everybody on the court, including his opponents.

When the game was over, McMillan had a team-record 25 assists and the Seattle SuperSonics had a 124-112 NBA victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Monday night.

"I didn't realize McMillan had so many assists," Clippers coach Don Chaney said. "That's a lot, but I think we contributed some from our defense. We just couldn't stop him defensively."

McMillan's single-game assist total was the best in the NBA this season, bettering the 22 assists John Stockton of Utah earned in last month against the Los Angeles Lakers.

In Monday's other NBA games, it was Dallas 121, Golden State 95; Houston 124, Denver 108; Cleveland 109, Washington 105; Atlanta 112, Philadelphia 103; Boston 116, New Jersey 103.

ENGLISH SOCCER

Property blow to veteran Londoners

LONDON. — Property company Marler Estates, who own third division Fulham, bought First Division QPR's Loftus Road ground here for £5.5 million on Monday. Fulham chairman David Bulstrode, who is also in charge at Marler, said that the merger would leave his company free to develop the Third Division stadium on the bank of the River Thames.

The move gives Marler control of West London's three main football clubs, as they also own First Division Chelsea.

Bulstrode said the team would

COMMENT

A dirty trick

The Bible obliges Jews to treat the stranger that sojourneth with us exactly like ourselves. This ethical imperative is apparently being treated with complete contempt by the management of the Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball club in their attitude to the Orthez basketball team, against whom Maccabi are to play a crucial game tomorrow night.

The Frenchmen, evidently having heard rumours about Israeli hospitality that proved to be misleading, came to Israel a few days early to acclimatize and to see the sights of the country. They assumed that they could combine such a visit with the necessary practice sessions. By means of what can only be described as truly unsporting conduct, Maccabi stopped their opponents from getting in their practice on a top-quality court. Hapoel Holon had been willing to put their court at the disposal of the French club, but Maccabi blocked that.

Everybody in Israel wants Maccabi to win the European Cup, but surely no sportsman in the land wants them to win by means of dirty tricks.

Karni, Gamliel to clash in Ein Gedi

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Israel's marathon star Yair Karni will be going for his fourth men's title on Saturday in this year's 25-km. Ein Gedi race round the Dead Sea, while Rosa Saydon is defending her women's crown for the second time.

A record 250 participants are expected for this fifth annual race which commemorates Giora Ron of Ein Gedi, a promising young athlete

killed in action during the Lebanese War. Giora's father Eli — a leading veteran runner — founded the race, organized jointly by Kibbutz Ein Gedi, Hapoel and the Tamar regional council.

Challenging Karni for the top honours will be longtime local cross-country champion Arish Gamliel, who last year finished as runner-up to Yehoshua Halifa (leaving Karni in third place). Halifa's winning time was a race record of 1 hour, 22 minutes, 42 seconds, but it is not yet known whether he is to defend his title.

Line up with Saydon will be Israel's crack woman distance runner Zehava Shmueli and her talented younger sister Mizzi Shmueli.

Race director Yacov Arish said one yesterday that the weekend's first time will have an international flavour for the first time, with the participation of several New Zealand members of the Sinai-based Israeli-National Force, UNIFIL personnel, and U.S. diplomats.

The race gets under way at 1.30 p.m. Registration is at the Ein Gedi sulphur baths starting point until 11 a.m. Entry fee is NIS 12. The 25-km. event is being supplemented by a new 10-km. race and a 4-km. mass run for all comers.

BOXING

Rambo-style Honeyghan bumps out Bumphus

WEMBLEY (AP). — Lloyd Honeyghan produced a "Rambo-style" assault on American Johnny Bumphus to retain his welterweight boxing title in four minutes of explosive action on Sunday night.

Referee Sam Williams of Detroit halted the contest — scheduled for 15 rounds — after only 55 seconds of the second round because Bumphus, who had hit the canvas twice.

"I was ready to eat him alive, when he went down for the second time I was going to keep punching. It was up to the referee to pull me off. I had psyched myself up to go to war, he wasn't going to win," said the 26-year-old Briton after his quick demolition of the former world junior welterweight title-holder.

"It was all Rambo stuff. It was rough-him-up business and no pacing around. I didn't want to dance around the ring. I was here to fight because that's how I earn a living." This was Honeyghan's first defence of his World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation titles.

Blow to pro-boxing in London

LONDON (AP). — Authorities in Hackney, a rundown area of east London, have banned professional boxing. This is the first time the sport has been outlawed anywhere in Britain.

Hackney, a left-wing municipal council controlled by the opposition Labour Party, is one of the strongholds of boxing in the capital, having spawned two world champions in recent years, light-middleweight Maurice Hope and light-heavyweight Dennis Andries.

Now, no more professional promotions can be held in venues licensed by the council. Amateur bouts are unaffected by the ban.

A statement issued by the council said there was "overwhelming evidence" that professional boxing carries serious medical risks.

One venue in Hackney that frequently holds international pro bouts is the Britannia Leisure Centre where

Frank Warren, one of Britain's leading promoters, has presented promotions.

"The ban is ludicrous," Warren says. "Apart from anything else, it is an insult to the boxers of Hackney, many of whom are black and part of a community the council is trying to keep in employment."

The British Boxing Board of Control, governing body of the sport in Britain, was equally surprised at the announcement. "We had no idea this was brewing," said board secretary John Morris, who added that pro boxers were "the best protected of all British sportsmen."

"This action is very regrettable and foolish," said Morris. "It is obviously not based on factual knowledge but some kind of hysteria."

British doctors had last year sought to have a total ban on boxing imposed. "Boxing," the British Medical Association pointed out, is the only sport "that uses the head as a target."

TOTO CUP

TEL AVIV. — Shimshon Tel Aviv and Maccabi Netanya yesterday reached the final of the "Toto cup" which will be played at the Ramat Gan stadium next Tuesday.

Shimshon beat Hapoel Beersheba 1-0 with an Eliran Arish goal in the second half after veteran striker Gidon Dumit was tripped.

In the second game at the new Kfar Sava stadium Maccabi Tel Aviv beat Maccabi Netanya 2-1. In front of 1500 spectators in extra time. After 90 minutes the teams were level at 1-1. Eli Dricks having given the Tel Avivians a lead in the 71st minute. Yigal Meuschen levelled in the 73rd and Natan Azariyah shot the Netanya winner after 103 minutes.

In the second division Toto cup semi-final games Hapoel Haifa beat Hapoel Holon 2-1 and Hapoel Acre triumphed Maccabi Shaaraim 3-0.

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL TV
8.00 Telefont 8.00 Keep Fit 8.15 School Broadcast 14.00 Telefont 14.05 Everyman's University 15.00 Surprise Train 15.10 Pickwick Papers (part 6) 15.40 Playhouse 15.50 Keep Fit 16.20 TV Game 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine

ISRAELI TV
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:
17.30 Concoction
ARABIC-LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES:
18.30 News roundup
18.32 Literature and Culture Magazine
18.50 Health Magazine
19.30 News
HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at:
20.00 with a news roundup
20.02 Questions on Life and Death
20.30 Tappi — science and technology magazine
21.00 Mabat: Newsweek
21.30 Mabat: Newsweek
22.05 The Wedding. Robert Altman's 1978 film stars Vittorio Gassman, Layan Hutton and Milla Farrow.
00.05 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial)
17.30 Carotina 18.00 French Hour 18.30 News in Hebrew 18.50 News in Arabic
20.30 The Company 21.30 The African — documentary 22.00 News in English 22.20 Aspen

MIDDLE EAST TV
17.30 Another Life 14.30-20.00 Club 14.30 Shape-Up 15.00 Afternoon Movie: The Black Boot 15.30 Newsweek 17.30 Super Back 17.30 Mabat 18.00 That's Hollywood 18.30 The Campbell 18.50 Newsweek 20.00 Simon & Simon 21.00 Newsweek 22.00 Cagney & Lacey 23.00 700 Club

RADIO

Voice of Music
6.02 Morning Melodies
7.05 Mozart: Piano Concerto No.25; Beethoven: Symphony No.2; Chopin: 24 Preludes for Piano (Pentath)
9.00 Vivaldi: "Winter" from "The Four Seasons"; Chopin: Piano Trio op.8 (Beaux Arts); Dvorak: String Quintet op.87 (Stuk, Smetana Quartet); Shostakovich: Symphony No.5 (London, Symphony/Firebird); Ravel: "Daphnis et Chloe"; Vivaldi: "Spring" from "The Four Seasons"
12.00 Varda Hagan, Irit Even-Tov, guitars — Works by Scarlatti: Bach, Granados, Albeniz and Falla
13.05 Talmann: Suite for Flute and Orchestra; Bach: Coffee Cantata; L. Mozart: Cossendon; Beethoven: Symphony No.1
14.00 Contemporary Music
16.00 Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra under David Robertson — Webern: Piano; Galle: Piano Concerto (Premiere performance); Janacek: "Tara Bulba"
17.30 Music from the Distant Past
18.00 Portrait
19.00 Schubert: Musical Moments (Lupul); Stravinsky: Hungarian Dances Nos. 10-12
20.05 Musical Melody
20.30 Opera — Verdi: Otello (Rogers, Kirby)
20.50 Schubert's Song Cycles (Fischer-Dieskau)

Second Programme
6.12 Gymnastics
6.30 Editorial Review
6.52 Green Light — drivers' corner
7.00 This Morning — news magazine
8.05 Making an Issue
9.05 House Call — with Rivka Michaeli
10.05 All Shoppers of the Network — morning magazine
11.30 Safe Journey
12.10 O.K. on Two
13.00 Midday — news commentary, music
14.05 Humour
15.05 Magic Moments
16.05 Songs and Homework
17.05 Economics Magazine
18.05 Spotlight
18.48 Today in Sport
19.05 Today — radio newsworld
19.35 Army and Defence Magazine
20.05 Folklore Magazine
21.05 Song for the Road
22.05 Talmudic Hunt
00.15 Stage and Screen

First Programme
6.03 Programmes for Olim
7.30 Programme in Easy Hebrew
8.05 Compas — with Benny Hendel
9.05 Information for Linguists
10.05 Morning Ears
11.10 School Broadcasts

11.30 Followings
12.05 Mid-East Melody
13.00 News in English
13.30 News in French
14.05 Children's programmes
15.30 Education for all
16.05 Programme for Senior Citizens
17.20 Everyman's University
18.05 Jewish Traditions
18.50 Bible Reading
19.30 Programmes for Olim
22.05 A Friend from the Same Planet

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CINEMA

JERUSALEM
Alliance Française: Films d'Animation pour les enfants 4; Bait Agor: Lady and the Tramp 3:30; Gone with the Wind 9:30; Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex: 8:30; Blazing Saddles 10:15; Chet: 10:30; The Song of the Car 7; Surrender 7 (small hall); A Farewell to Arms 8 (small hall); Agnes of God 8:30; Eden: Thunderbolt and Lightfoot 4:30; 7; Edison: Running Scared 4:30; 7; Habsburg: La Passante de Sans Souci 5:15; 7:15; 9:15; Jerusalem Theatre: Ginger and Fred 6:45; 8:15; Kfir: Bousha 4:30; 7; 9; Mitchell: Annie Hall 7; 9; Orgie: Blue Velvet 4:30; 6:45; 9:15; Orion Or 1: Crocodile Dundee 4:30; 7; 9; Orion Or 3: A Fine Mess 4:30; 7; 9; Orion Or 4: Et la Tendresse... Bored 4:30; 7; 9; Orion Or 5: Commando Leopard 4:30; 6:45; The Color Purple 8:30; Orion: Heartbreak Ridge 4; 6:45; 9:15; Orion: The Trip to Bountiful 4:30; 7; 9; Orion: My Beautiful Laundrette 7; 9:15.

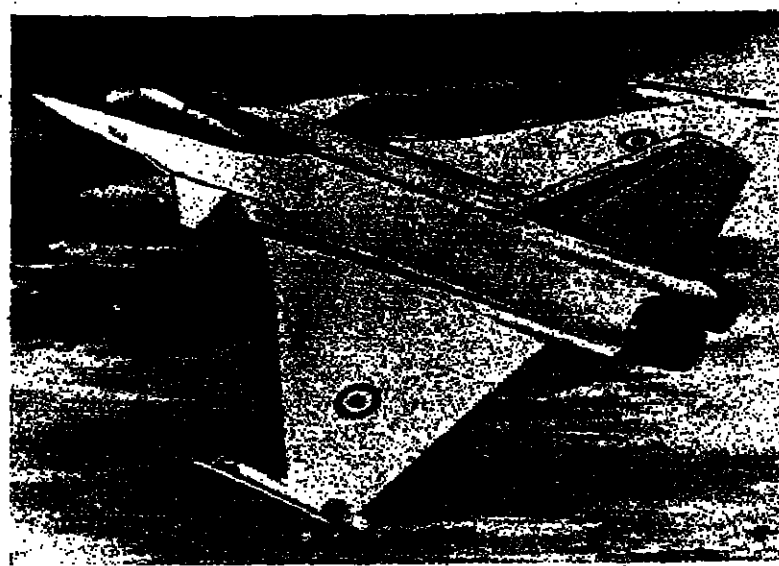
TEL AVIV
Bait Leisla: Manhattan 11:15 p.m.; Ben-Yehuda: Harem 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Chet 1: Heartbreak Ridge 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Chet 2: Joshua Then and Now 7:25; 9:45; Chet 3: Malcolm 5; 7:30; 9:40; Chet 4: Blue Velvet 11; 2:35; 5; 7:30; 9:45; Chet 5: Ruthless People 11; 2; 5; 7:30; 9:45; Cinema One: Avenging Force 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Cinema Two: Top Gun 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Deke: Crocodile Dundee 7:15; 9:30; Ditzengoff 1: The Mission 11; 1:30; 4:45; 7:15; 9:40; Ditzengoff 2: The Decline of the American Empire 11; 1:30; 4:45; 7:15; 9:40; Ditzengoff 3: A Room With a View 11; 1:30; 4:45; Mona Lisa 7:15; 9:40; Drive-In: Hot Target 7:30; 9:30; Sex film 12 midnight; Embassy: The Fly 6; 7:15; 9:40; Gert: Jumpin' Jack Flash 5; 7:15; 9:40; Kacholone ZDA House: Ginger and Fred 4:30; 7:15; 9:30 (exc. Wed.); Hady: Running Scared 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Israel Cinematheque: The Cohens and Kellys in Paris 7; The Travelling Players 9:30; Lew 1: The Mosquito Coast 2; 5; 7:15; 9:40; Lew 2: Summer 2; 5; 7:40; 9:40; Lew 3: Choose Me 2; 5; 9:40; Lew 4: Orion Belt 2; 5; 7:40; 9:40; Lew 5: Harem Harem: Peggy Sue Got Married 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; 9:40; Lew 6: New Gordon: Bousha 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Orion: closed for renovations; Paria: Throne of Blood 12; 2; 4; 7:15; 9:30; Peor: Echo Park 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Shekaf: Hannah and Her Sisters

HAIFA
Amphitheatre: Hannah and Her Sisters 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Armon: The Fly 4:30; 6:45; 9:15; Armon 2: The Mosquito Coast 4:14; 6:45; 9:15; Armon 3: Menzhi 4:45; 7:15; 9:30; Kacholone Or Harem: Forbidden 4:30; 7; 9:15; Oran: Bousha 4:30; 7; 9:15; Oran: Blue Velvet 4:45; 9:15; Peor: Crocodile Dundee 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Ram-Gat 1: Jumpin' Jack Flash 5; 7:35; 9:45; Ram-Gat 2: A Room With a View 4:45; 7; 9:40; Ram-Gat 3: Malcolm 5; 7:15; 9:40; Ram-Gat 4: Joshua Then and Now 5; 7:20; 9:40.

RAMAT GAN
Armon: Heartbreak Ridge 4:30; 7; 9:30; Lily: Back to School 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Oasis: Instant Justice 7:15; 9:40; Oran: Bousha 7:15; 9:30; Ram-Gat 1: Jumpin' Jack Flash 5; 7:35; 9:45; Ram-Gat 2: A Room With a View 4:45; 7; 9:40; Ram-Gat 3: Malcolm 5; 7:15; 9:40; Ram-Gat 4: Joshua Then and Now 5; 7:20; 9:40.

HERZLIYA
Dan Accadia: The Color Purple 6:30; 9:30; Daniel Hotel: Back to School 7:15; 9:30 (exc. Wed.); David: Raw Deal 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Mechail: Avenging Force 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; New Tifard: Heartbreak Ridge 7:30.

HOLON
Armon Harem: A Big Apart 4:30; 7:15; 9:30; Migdal: Pirates 7:15; 9:30; Fik: closed; Sefar: closed



AMX32 with gear at trade show.

(AFP)

Mock-up of the Rafale jet fighter.

(AFP)

France's embattled arms makers

Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway and Denmark have been cited as

An order from Syria for AMX-13

worried about running out of money in the middle of their trip will no doubt be comforted by the know-

least 100,000 visitors, plan to turn the event into a major happening.

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هكذا امن الله على

MARKET PLACE

Trouble in Eurobond market

A multi-billion dollar market in bank bonds collapsed yesterday leaving some of the world's largest banks stuck with the best part of \$17 billion of unsellable investments.

The market for banks' perpetual floating rate notes, or "perps" as traders call them, has come to a halt for the third time since mid-December. This time, however, there is no sign anything will be done to reopen it, most dealers agree.

A perp is one variety among Eurobonds - international bonds in which a huge trade is centered in London - but it is unique in that there is no redemption date on which a purchaser can present the paper and get his money back from the issuer.

It makes up for that by carrying an above-average rate of interest.

Meanwhile investors are assured that there would always be a secondary market, in which perps were bought and sold, through which they could bail out and get their money back whenever they wanted.

But yesterday there wasn't. Some \$17b. worth of perps have been issued and that has just been too much for the number of investors who could afford them. When some started selling they found there was almost no body willing to buy. Yesterday no dealer could be found to make a price. A dealers' group which restarted the market after its previous collapses apparently plans no meetings to discuss doing so again.

No one's even suggested one, said its chairman, Jerry Goldstein, yesterday.

A London banker added: "Some of the big commercial banks are going to be totally taken to the cleaners... They're looking at potential losses in the hundreds of millions [of dollars]."

Perps only make up a tiny part of a Eurobond market with a turnover of \$2.5 trillion worth of bonds a year. But the collapse leaves bankers around the world looking at unsellable notes which may never be redeemed and, although their perps continue to pay interest, at potential losses which cannot remain unacknowledged for ever.

It is a worrying time for bankers, with Brazil's decision to suspend interest payments on \$68 billion of commercial bank loans already depressing bank shares.

And some bankers believe the collapse of trading in perps - through which leading banks in Britain, the U.S., France, Canada and Australia raised capital - may have far-reaching implications for the world banking system.

Bankers and dealers say it has already affected trading in some \$150b. of other types of bank bonds such as more traditional floating rate notes - bonds yielding returns that vary with prevailing short-term interest rates but which, unlike perps, do have a redemption date.

Disasters say the value of portfolios of these notes is eroding, with prices under pressure. Trading in many issues is at best spotty.

Banks are the biggest investors in these issues, which have to some extent become a substitute for traditional lending, especially since the emergence of the debt crisis in 1982.

And the banks which issued both perps and traditional floating rate notes - used in good part to fund their leading activities - have seen them until now as a way of spreading the risk of loans to the Third World, a process they called "securitization."

"The perp market is dead," concludes one banker. "And its death shows what a complete and utter farce global securitization has been."

(Reuters)

Arab held for vandalism at Jordan Valley mosque

By JOEL GREENBERG
Police have arrested an Arab on suspicion of cutting down about 200 grapevines at the Jordan Valley mosque of Gittit.

Gittit secretary Emile Azran said the vandalized vines had been discovered early yesterday morning. Police trackers followed footprints to the neighbouring village of Akra, where the suspect was arrested, a police spokesman said.

Pitney Bowes Automatic Facsimile Machine

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* Koorret, 14 Sharnai, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-247383
* Meimed Office Mechanization, 120 Ha'atzma'ut, Haifa, Tel. 04-532025

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Phoenix linked with collapse of FIT

TEL AVIV (Itim). - A \$120 million suit was filed in district court here yesterday against the Phoenix Assurance Co. and two of its executives, charging they were in part responsible for the collapse of the FIT brokerage firm last year.

Named in the suit, which was filed by FIT's receivers, were David Hackmey, Phoenix chairman, and his son Yossi, as well as the insurance company itself.

The suit alleges that the Hackmays used some \$7m. in FIT funds to invest in the stock market in shares whose price they manipulated. It also claims that additional money, in the millions of shekels, was lent to other members of the Hackmey family at no interest.

The suit notes that the money was borrowed at a time of high inflation and that FIT made up for the lost funds by borrowing from commercial banks at high interest rates.

The receivers contend that the Hackmey's activities contributed to the collapse of FIT in March 1985, and they demand the \$120m. as compensation to FIT clients, who lost money in the affair.

Phoenix owned half of FIT until January 1985, just three months before the brokerage firm's two partners, Yori Salant and Hagai Blich shut FIT and fled the country. Their clients are estimated to have lost at least \$12m. through FIT, and the shockwaves of the collapse are still being felt through the economy.

Refus, who was accompanied by an adviser, Amnon Ben-Amram, said the government would sell its stakes through flotations on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and on foreign markets, as well as direct sales to private investors.

Refus conceded that the high hopes he held when assuming his post two years ago of spinning off state enterprises to groups of private investors had not yet been met. As a result, he said, the government would rely more on share market flotations.

Refus said that in addition to the planned share issues in the Jerusalem Economic Corp. and Mivneh Ta'asia, the authorities were considering the sale of Maman Cargo Terminals Ltd., which is controlled by El Al.

Paz Oil Co., which is also on the block, has attracted five serious interest in the fuel concern, Refus said. He warned, however, that government plans to deregulate the energy sector could drive some or all of the potential investors away.

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Gov't vows sell-off of state firms

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The government's policy is to sell off state-owned companies and in doing so reduce its interference in the capital markets. Ze'ev Refus, director-general of the Government Companies Authority reaffirmed at a press conference.

Refus, who was accompanied by an adviser, Amnon Ben-Amram, said the government would sell its stakes through flotations on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and on foreign markets, as well as direct sales to private investors.

Refus conceded that the high hopes he held when assuming his post two years ago of spinning off state enterprises to groups of private investors had not yet been met. As a result, he said, the government would rely more on share market flotations.

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Fashion fair focuses on Europe

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. - The strengthening of European currencies has had a visible impact on Israel's fashion industry, with January exports there running 34 per cent higher than a year ago, Yohanan Levy, head of the Industry Ministry's textile and clothing division told a news conference yesterday.

Speaking at the opening of Israel Winter Fashion Week, Levy declared that after several years of declining revenues "we are finally beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel." He expressed confidence that the 24 per cent increase in fashion exports recorded last year, bringing the total up from \$328 million to over \$400m. But Levy warned an acute labour shortage in the fashion and textiles industry could damp further exports. He said his ministry was looking for solutions.

Hannah Weiss, who is second in the division after Levy, said the labour shortage could only be alleviated by the Arab and Druse workers. There were some 5,000 potential workers in the northern part of the country, she said, and the Ministry had also put out feelers, with encouraging response, to Beduins in the south.

Weiss insisted that such low wages were paid by sub-contractors and that those working in established plants were earning more. Even so, she conceded, workers were not earning much.

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Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS
Indices:
General Share Index 117.73 -2.85%
Non-Bank Index 137.16 -6.27%
Arrangement 105.16 -0.44%
Insurance 122.38 -5.21%
Commerce, Services 128.87 -5.58%
Real Estate 126.74 -5.78%
Industrial 138.73 -5.58%
Textiles 126.44 -6.03%
Metals 143.18 -5.77%
Electronics 143.18 -5.77%
Chemicals 143.18 -5.77%
Industrial Invest. 143.18 -5.77%
Investment Cos. 143.18 -5.77%
General Bond Index 109.82 -0.11%
Index-linked Bonds 110.48 -0.17%
Fully-linked 111.55 -0.19%
Partially-linked 108.79 -0.14%
Dollar-linked Bonds 105.14 -0.22%
Short-term 0-2 yrs 107.84 -0.15%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs 108.73 -0.00%
Long-term 5+ yrs 111.23 -0.17%

Turnovers:
Shares - total NIS 31,590,500
Non-Bank NIS 2,283,600
Bonds - total NIS 29,307,000
Index-linked NIS 7,043,300
Dollar-linked NIS 2,239,400
Treasury Bills NIS 14,550,500

Share Movements:
Advances of which 5%+ 6 (21)
Declines of which 5%+ 145 (30)
Unchanged 28 (112)
Trading Halt 23 (24)

Bond Market Trends:
Index-linked: 3% fully-linked Generally falls to 3%

4.25% fully-linked Mixed between 1-3%
80% linked Mixed/drops to 2%
Double-linked: Stable/tends to rise to 2%
Dollar-linked: Stable

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Discount A 18.10%
Mizrahi 18.00%
Hapoalim 17.96%
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Pulling apart

FOREIGN MINISTER Shimon Peres is leaving on a visit to Cairo today, just hours before Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir returns from his nine-day journey to the U.S. Their paths will not cross, either physically or symbolically. They apparently have nothing of value to tell one another any longer. The two party blocs they head are still joined on paper in a national unity pact. But what truly unites them now seems to be only the expectation of a fresh electoral fight sometime soon.

No doubt the Likud is rather less eager than the Alignment to go to the polls later this year.

The party whose leader heads the government always enjoys a relative electoral advantage over the party in opposition—even if the opposition is from within the government. Mr. Shamir also has sound personal cause not to rush to popular judgement. Having only recently secured the rotation of the premiership, he probably prefers to hold on to his high post for as long as he can.

For one thing, this will allow him more time to strengthen his position within Herut, at the expense of rivals David Levy and Ariel Sharon.

But in the final analysis it cannot serve a particularly useful purpose for him to be seen leading—and not so much leading, as simply dragging—a ramshackle government through the mud, only so as to delay its foreordained demise. Taking necessary risks in bidding for a renewal of the people's mandate is itself a test of democratic leadership.

On the face of it, the present altercation between Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres is over the proposal for an international conference on Arab-Israeli peace. In fact it is but the means for both of them to project a fighting image of themselves in the mind of the voting public—in the case of Mr. Peres, it is the image of a peace-seeker, and in the case of Mr. Shamir, that of a territorial integralist.

There is no way for Mr. Peres to get any agreement he may reach in Cairo this week through the cabinet over Likud opposition. The foreign minister knows this, of course, and so do the Egyptians. But a meeting of minds between the Alignment cabinet faction and Egypt's government would still embarrass the Likud and Mr. Shamir.

This is not a pleasant prospect for the premier, which may account for the public warning he has sounded that the visit might result in a breakup of the coalition. Earlier Mr. Shamir was willing to take a more nonchalant view of Mr. Peres's escapades into international-conference diplomacy, evidently assuming that it would get the foreign minister nowhere.

If, as is widely believed, Mr. Peres considers the national unity government to be a dead horse, he can be expected to use this opportunity to end what is becoming government by farce.

Needless to say, he must see to it that all his Alignment colleagues, notably Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, are of one mind with him on this: that the government's downfall does not lead directly to the formation of a narrow Likud-led coalition; that the election campaign that will follow is mercifully short, and not economically destructive.

There is no advance assurance that the Knesset that would emerge from such an ordeal would be materially different from the present. But perhaps, just perhaps, the voters would realize that the experiment of divided government pulling in opposite directions should not be repeated.

SHAMIR

(Continued from Page One)
we'll have to look for new ways by which the will of the public can be expressed.

Peres, meanwhile, expressed surprise at what he termed Shamir's "outspoken manner." He told a meeting of Labour ministers that he would not necessarily return from Egypt "with an agreement on an international conference in my pocket."

Responding to Shamir's statement that Peres "may go and scout things out in Egypt," Peres quipped that he is not a pale scout. Peres said that "he does not need anybody's approval" to go to Egypt.

The Labour ministers still appear to be divided over the extent—and advisability—of the row with the Likud. Peres, along with Ezer Weizman and Moshe Shahal, represent the "hard-line" view, while Yitzhak Rabin, Yitzhak Navon and Gad Ya'acobi, are trying to cool down the crisis atmosphere. Rabin said yesterday that currently, the international conference is not an issue that should cause the government's downfall.

The Likud yesterday stated that Peres had not notified his fellow ministers of his trip to Egypt in advance "because he lacked the public courage" to do so. They advised Mubarak to "ascertain what Peres's promises are worth" before meeting with him.

The Likud said that Peres's statements on the international conference—"which bordered on the irresponsible"—had damaged Israel. They said that Peres's statement had "made it simple" for the European Community foreign ministers to revive the Venice Declaration which calls for PLO "association" with any peace talks.

Both parties continue to hold informal talks with the religious parties regarding their positions on the establishment of a narrow coalition or the dispersal of the Knesset and new elections.

RELIEF

(Continued from Page One)
sources, that a family in one village is burying the remains of a relative who died in the Hizbullah case, while at a neighbouring settlement similar rites are taking place for a deceased Amal fighter or Communist sympathizer.

Such events only serve to stoke up passions, hatreds and local rivalries, causing blood feuds that transcend political and religious affiliations.

There have been reports recently of Shi'ites killing and abducting other Shi'ites in the region. The victims for the most part, have all been radicals or people identified as Communists, whose compatriots were involved in the recent fighting against Amal militiamen in Beirut.

But according to the sources, the majority of residents in the South are anxious to avoid the violence and internal conflicts that, until now, have been confined to the Lebanese capital and its environs.

For these reasons, the sources said, the southerners have welcomed the Syrian intervention—provided it succeeds in stopping the fighting and thereby minimizing repercussions in the South. Conversely, the Shi'ites in the South, backed by local Christians and other ethnic groups, would oppose any moves by the Syrians to extend their forces and influence to the South.

The southerners, with the Palestinian reign of terror still indelibly etched in their memories, have no love for foreigners, as they de-

monstrated when Israeli forces overstayed their welcome in the South. The regional population has an even stronger antipathy towards Syria, which has been unable to expand its influence in the region, despite backing from the Amal hierarchy.

In the past, the local Shi'ites have prevented Syria from opening "political offices" in Tyre. The villagers, regardless of pressure from the Beirut Amal leadership to make concessions, are expected to adhere to this stance.

This is partly due to their fear of reprisal from Israel, as much as to their own desire to maintain their independence.

"The Syrians are concentrating all their efforts on restoring peace to Beirut and for the time being I don't expect them to even think about the South," said a source in South Lebanon.

In order to ensure safe passage along the coastal road to the South, he expected the Syrians to deploy their forces as far South as the Awali river, but not to enter Sidon itself.

"Sidon is predominantly a Sunni town. One of the conditions for Syrian intervention would undoubtedly have been ensuring safe passage between Sidon and Beirut, as this travel is essential to the livelihoods of Sunni residents in both cities," the source maintained.

He expected the Syrians to fulfil this obligation, but without encroaching on Palestinian camps.

Early election fears

Yosef Goeli

OVER A WEEK ago the monthly Pori public opinion poll published in *Ha'aretz* found that if elections were held now, close to 50 per cent of the electorate would vote for Labour or for the parties of the centre and left which could be expected to form a coalition with it, and never with the Likud. By comparison, the Likud was somewhere down in the 20 per cents and together with its prospective allies could get up into the 30 per cents.

One would have expected that the publication of such findings amid a budding coalition crisis around the twin issues of financial aid to the kibbutzim and the differences between Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres over Israel's attitude towards an international peace conference, would have persuaded many Labour leaders to seek to use these issues as pretexts for bringing down the government and going to early elections.

And, indeed, there were reports that Peres, Ezer Weizman and Moshe Shahal were arguing within Labour for bringing the above crises to a head with such a goal in mind. There are, however, at least three good reasons why cooler heads are prevailing and that for the unpreemptive time in the life of this unity coalition, such crises will not result in the downfall of the government and the declaration of early elections.

From the point of view of pure analysis, one need not go beyond the first reason. There simply is no majority in the Knesset at this time for its dissolution. Too many of the parties are in deep internal trouble, and too many of the individual MKs in all parties are sufficiently unsure of their own positions within their parties to risk going to early elections.

Labour's forcing of the above issues to the point of quitting the government would not bring it down but would most likely result in a minority Likud-religious coalition that would rule Israel during the next year and a half. Labour is not suicidal enough to let that happen for it would mean entrusting the reins of government and total control of the Treasury to the Likud for the period immediately prior to the elections.

Secondly, Labour leaders are looking forward with barely veiled anticipation to the prospect of Herut ripping itself apart at the forthcoming party conference, which Yitzhak Shamir has succeeded in putting off for a year, but which is now scheduled for April.

Thirdly, and possibly the most

important from the point of view of longer-range thinking in Labour, is the opposition to early elections of many middle-level party officials. They have their ears much closer to the ground than the cabinet ministers and they believe the Pori findings are misleading. Last week, I met with Ra'anan Cohen, the head of Labour's elections division, and he predicted with a great deal of confidence that the unity government would stay in office until the official election date of November 1988, or very close to it.

BASING his view on studies his division has carried out, Cohen came to the conclusion that if the party did not make heroic efforts to change its image in the eyes of the electorate in the next 20 months, it would have great difficulty in maintaining the proportion of votes it won in 1984, and might even come out worse than it did two and half years ago.

In July 1984, the Alignment (at that time, including Mapam, which subsequently split away) won 34.9 per cent of the total valid votes. It may no longer be recalled today, but that figure constituted at 1.7 per cent decline from the Alignment's electoral performance in the 1981 elections.

In his analysis, Cohen notes that the 1984 elections slowed down the long-term trend of the growth of the Likud and the right-wing parties, but that it was still too early to establish whether this constituted a reversal of that trend or only a stabilization in the division of support between the left and right.

He adds that the demographic trends indicate that those sectors of the electorate from which the Likud derives its strength are still growing: younger voters, those of the Moslem-country-origin communities, the lower-income groups and those with less education.

In order to maintain its 1984 proportion of the votes, Labour will have to win not less than 815,000 votes. But in order to be able to form a government, with its natural allies on the left and in the moderate religious camp, it will need at least 40 per cent of the vote, or over 900,000 votes. This is a very tall order.

Cohen reverts time and again to the question of the party's image in the eyes of the voters. And from that point of view his pessimism is fully warranted. The main hope of a

Labour Party led by Shimon Peres and the rest of the party's current top configuration is that Herut and the Likud will prove themselves to be so bad in leading the country that Peres's and Labour's own less than enthusiastic images will be forgotten by a sufficient number of voters to make a difference.

THAT MIGHT be enough for Peres and Labour to hope for; for Israel this competition as to who is the lesser of the evils, is a calamity. It basically means that neither group of leaders fielded by the two main parties is capable of doing a very creditable job of governing. This analysis corroborates the impression of the past few elections in which it is known that very many voters made their choice out of negative motivations.

Some of these voters didn't like the Likud, either under Begin or Shamir, but were ready to vote for it in order to stop a Labour that was even worse in their eyes. Or, on the other side of the fence, were the voters who were left cold by Peres and Labour, but nonetheless voted for them in order to prevent the Likud from continuing in power.

It is this negative voting that has made predicting elections so impossible in recent years. The fact is that so many people have become so turned off by both major parties—and by many of the smaller ones—and they literally make up their minds at the very last moment, often in the polling booth itself.

Cohen's most interesting prediction, to my mind, was "that the experience with the national unity government, can be expected to reinforce the tendency for many voters to vote for the extreme parties on the left and the right at the expense of both Labour and the Likud."

All of this makes for a very pessimistic reading of what lies in store for Israel, in regard, not so much to the identity of its ruling group, but as to the quality of their performance. We have seen what both the Likud and Labour have to offer. What we really need are internal challenges mounted by new generations of leaders in both parties. Or, better yet, a renewed attempt on the part of capable new people entering the system in new parties to challenge Labour and the Likud. These latter two parties have had by now sufficient opportunity to prove how poor a job they do in ruling Israel.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

Immorality of drop-outs

David Krivine

THE ROW is worsening over Soviet Jewry. The Zionist view is that they should all come to Israel. The Diaspora view is mainly that, in accordance with the code of human rights, they should be free to go where they please.

Since the code of human rights is being invoked, the message must surely be that there are only two legitimate alternatives: to stay in the Soviet Union or to come to Israel. There cannot—ethically—be a third choice.

Soviet citizens are not allowed to leave their country. Where the ban is lifted, it is for persons who have a recognized claim to another nationality. The official formula is "reunification of families" and when the Kremlin wants to restrict emigration it can apply that test strictly. But the people who leave are Jews and their stated destination is Israel.

By changing their travel plans midway and proceeding to the U.S., they are cheating on their commitment to the Soviet authorities. This may have contributed to the drastic reduction of exit permits after the big outflow in the 1970's but that is not the issue at stake.

The issue is mono-nationality versus multi-nationality; or the relation of Jews to the countries they inhabit. It is time we faced the facts. The classic anti-Semitic barb is that Jews show no loyalty to the fatherland. When times are good they are patriots, when times are bad their patriotism is forgotten. They vanish, seeking greener pastures elsewhere.

Jews in the Diaspora indignantly deny this charge.

It belongs to the days when Jews were a persecuted minority. They wanted to be an integral part of the nation, but the host community rejected them. Things are different in the modern world, Jews are now accepted as equal citizens. They respond by eagerly shouldering the burdens of citizenship. Indeed that is the reason why they no longer want to immigrate to Israel: they are faithful to the nationality they hold.

THE SAME applies to Soviet Jewry. The state does not reject them, on the contrary it wants to make them more Russian than they are. It persecutes them for being religious or making Zionist propaganda, just as it persecutes gentle Russians for plugging so-called "reactionary" ideas. A Jew who behaves like a Russian is—broadly speaking—treated like a Russian.

Refuseniks who insist that their Jewish identity supersedes their Russian identity have in some cases been allowed to go, on the assumption that they will make their homes in the Jewish state. Not all do so. A proportion end up living agnostic secular lives in places like New York and Los Angeles, which have no more to do with Judaism or Jewish nationality than Odessa or Kiev.

It emerges that these people are not Jews who want to be Jewish, they are Russians who want to get out of Russia. What does the Russian who is not allowed to leave for America think of the Jewish Russian who does have that privilege?

It is not hard to guess. Old prejudices will be trotted out with new conviction. "They must surely have bribed their way out," people will say bitterly. Or: "Jews only think of themselves." Or: "The Jews are on top, we Russians are ignored."

Here are three questions about human rights, and three suggested answers. One: Should Russians in general be entitled by right to live in the U.S. or anywhere else at their choice? Answer: yes.

Two: Should Soviet Jews who declare that Israel is their national home be entitled to repatriation? Answer: yes.

Three: Given that Russians are not allowed to leave their country, should Jews with no separate national affiliation be given special treatment? The answer from any impartial observer can only be: no.

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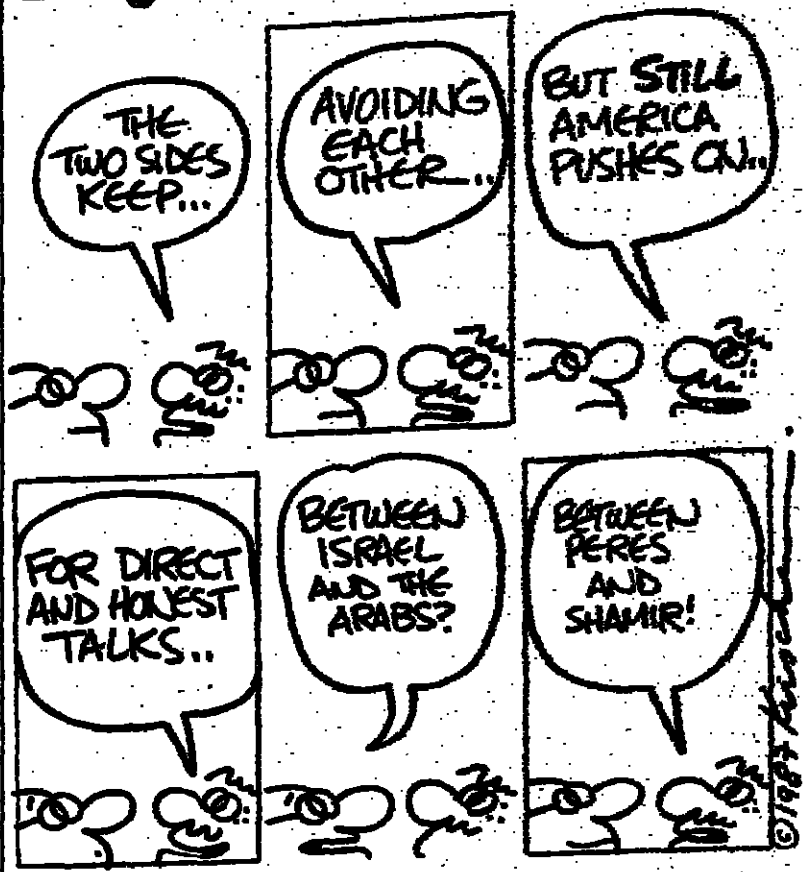
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READERS' LETTERS

INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — The Jerusalem Post Magazine of January 23 published an interesting interview with Faisal Hussein, a Palestinian leader in East Jerusalem. In his interview with Edward Grossman, Hussein who, like most Palestinians, politically supports the PLO, expressed the opinion that, with eventually growing strength outside the country, their morale here would also improve. He added they would be able to mount more resistance, non-violent and otherwise, and then the world would pay more attention.

About a year ago, the same Mr.

Eliakim Haezani published a book with the title, *The Shock of withdrawal from Eretz-Israel*. In chapter 19 of this provocative document against Israel's democratic regime, we read: "What will happen if... the government (of Israel) will decide... in favour of evacuation of Judea and Samaria?... If the state will recall the army, the police and the Israeli civil government from Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip — there still will remain in those areas scores of thousands of Jews... These Jews will be completely free of the governmental renunciation. Their bonds will be only to the country and not to the state that turned its back on the country and on them... If the State of Israel... will try by force and by bloodshed to push some hundred thousand out of their homes, that might lead to fratricide."

Even as a judicial layman, it seems to me that these sentences and their clear political message contain a degree of incitement to violence no less than the above-mentioned passage of Faisal Hussein's interview.

YEHUDA BEN-MOSHE
Jerusalem

VOA ARABIC SERVICE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — The Voice of America has been featuring PLO spokesmen. "Meir" (Mid East Information Resource), founded to promote a better image of Israel, would like to know why this is so.

Meanwhile, it is most interesting to note that Yoram Alster, the director of the Israel Department of Communications, declares that Israel has "input" into the editorial content of the broadcasts of the VOA (February 3). Alster claims that this is an inherent part of the understanding that has been reached with the United States, in order to facilitate Israeli government approval for the VOA relay station complex under construction in the Arava.

Alster's reassurance about VOA seems flawed in view of the unfairness of the current Middle East editorial policy of VOA Arabic language news and feature service. While the VOA English language coverage of the Middle East tends to be rather balanced, the VOA Arabic

language broadcasts make no pretence at being balanced.

The Amman-based Arab-language VOA correspondent, Muhammad Ghumain, has recently featured four active supporters of the PLO on the Arabic language broadcasts of the VOA. The VOA clearly avoided even the facade of balance by not inviting informed representatives to provide intelligent rebuttal to the PLO advocates.

Following the VOA's demonstrated refusal to provide balanced Middle East coverage, one wonders about the nature of their upgraded Israeli operation. Perhaps it is time for Alster and the other Israelis involved in the VOA negotiations to take a hard look at the deep-set Arabist orientation of some branches of the U.S. State Department, including the Arabic language department of the VOA.

GAIL & EMANUEL WINSTON,
Meir - Mid East Information Resource
Highland Park, Illinois.

RIDDLE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I am not a kibbutznik. I am not a moshavnik. I am not living in a settlement beyond the Green Line. I don't live in a development town.

I don't work for Solei Boneh, nor do I study at a yeshiva. Who am I?
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MORDECHAI B. DESSAUR
Rishon LeZion.

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